

Colombians Restart Talks

WILLIAM NEUMAN

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EL HORNO, Colombia – For the first time in a decade, rebels and the government of Colombia came together for formal peace talks Wednesday, with the goal of ending the longest-running war in the Western Hemisphere – nearly 50 years old and counting. Despite three previous rounds of failed negotiations since the 1980s, many observers say there are reasons to hope that this time things could be different, including recent military suc-



Colombian security forces stand watch in Toribio, Cauca, Colombia. Peace talks between the government and FARC began on Wednesday. (S. Ferry/The New York Times)

cesses that have the guerrillas on the defensive. But the negotiations must not only convince members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, one of the world's most tenacious armed groups, to finally lay down their weapons. They also aim to dismantle a major criminal enterprise that derives much of its income from drugs and is a prime source of cocaine to the United States.

For many in the organization, known as FARC, the drug profits may be too rich to leave behind.□

“We Will Not Stop”



Man held in NYC plot to blow up Federal Reserve

A Federal Reserve police officer stands in front of the Federal Reserve Building Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, in New York. Federal authorities on Wednesday arrested a Bangladeshi man they said was plotting to blow up the Federal Reserve building in Manhattan, just blocks from the World Trade Center site.

COLLEEN LONG
TOM HAYS
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A Bangladeshi man who came to the United States to wage jihad was arrested in an elaborate FBI sting on Wednesday after attempting to blow up a fake car

bomb outside the Federal Reserve building in Manhattan, authorities said.

Before trying to carry out the alleged terrorism plot, Quazi Mohammad Rezwatul Ahsan Nafis went to a warehouse to help assemble a 1,000-pound (450 pounds) bomb using

inert material, according to a criminal complaint. He also asked an undercover agent to videotape him saying, “We will not stop until we attain victory or martyrdom,” the complaint said.

Agents grabbed the 21-year-old Nafis — armed

with a cellphone he believed was rigged as a detonator — after he made several attempts to blow up the bomb inside a vehicle parked next to the Federal Reserve, the complaint said.

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(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

Obama, Romney seek support from women after debate

DAVID ESPO

KEN THOMAS

Associated Press

MOUNT VERNON, Iowa (AP)

— One day after their contentious, finger-pointing debate, President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney vied aggressively for the support of women voters Wednesday, as they and their running mates charged across nearly a half-dozen battleground states in the close race for the White House with 20 days to run.

Not even Republicans disputed that Obama's debate performance was much stronger than the listless showing two weeks earlier that helped spark a rise in the polls for Romney. The two rivals meet one more time, next Monday in Florida.

The first post-debate polls were divided, some saying Romney won, others finding Obama did. At least some of the voters who

asked the questions in the town-hall style encounter remained uncommitted. "If Gov. Romney could actually provide the jobs, that would be a good thing because we really need them," said Nina Gonzalez, a 2008 Obama voter, neatly summarizing the uncertainty confronting voters in a slow-growth, high-unemployment economy. Obama wore a pink wristband to show support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month as he campaigned in Iowa and then Ohio, and reminded his audience that the first legislation he signed after becoming president made it easier for women to take pay grievances to court. Romney took no position on that bill when it passed Congress, and his campaign says he would not seek its repeal. But Obama chided him, saying, "That shouldn't be a complicated question. Equal pay for equal work."

He also jabbed at Romney's remark during Tuesday night's debate that as Massachusetts governor,

collect a bunch of binders to find qualified, talented women," he said.

"I've got two daughters

Obama spoke to a crowd of about 14,000 students and supporters at Ohio University, imploring them to vote early. "I want your vote. I am not too proud to beg. I want you to vote," he said. Romney's campaign launched a new television commercial that seemed designed to take the edge ever so slightly off his opposition to abortion — another example of his October move toward the middle — while urging women voters to keep pocketbook issues uppermost in their minds when they cast their ballots. "In fact he thinks abortion should be an option in cases of rape, incest or to save a mother's life," says a woman in the new ad. Pivoting quickly to economic matters, she adds, "But I'm more concerned about the debt our children will be left with. I voted for President Obama last time, but we just can't afford four more years." □



Amy Collella, a counter worker at the Oakmont Bakery, stands behind boxes of sugar cookies bearing the likenesses of President Barack Obama and Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, at the bakery on Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012 in Oakmont, Pa.

(AP Photo/Keith Srakocic)

he received "whole binders full of women" after saying he wanted to appoint more of them to his administration. "We don't have to

and I don't want them paid less for the same job as a man," Obama said at an appearance in Athens, Ohio, later Wednesday.

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Armstrong's fall continues as Livestrong, sponsors walk

JIM VERTUNO
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Already an outcast in cycling after a massive doping report, Lance Armstrong absorbed hits much closer to home Wednesday: to his wallet and his heart.

Armstrong was dumped by Nike, Anheuser-Busch and other sponsors, and he gave up the top spot at Livestrong, his beloved cancer-fighting charity, a week after an anti-doping agency released evidence of drug use by the seven-time Tour de France winner. Armstrong stepped down as chairman of Livestrong in an attempt to minimize the damage caused by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency's report. USADA banned Armstrong from the sport for life and has ordered that his Tour titles be stripped, which could come before the end of the month.

"This organization, its mission and its supporters are incredibly dear to my heart," the cancer survivor said in a statement. "Today therefore, to spare the foundation any negative effects as a result of controversy surrounding my cycling career, I will conclude my chairmanship."

Minutes later, Nike dropped its personal sponsorship contract with him and issued a blistering statement that the company had been duped by his denials over the years.

"Due to the seemingly insurmountable evidence

that Lance Armstrong participated in doping and misled Nike for more than a decade, it is with great sadness that we have terminated our contract with him. Nike does not condone the use of illegal performance

sports also cut ties with him. Among them were Trek bicycles and Honey Stinger, a maker of foods and gels for athletes.

"We are in the process of removing Lance Armstrong's image and endorsement



Livestrong CEO and president Doug Ulman discusses the future of the organization, Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, in Austin, Texas. Lance Armstrong stepped down as chairman of his Livestrong cancer-fighting charity on Wednesday. (AP Photo/Jack Plunkett)

enhancing drugs in any manner," the company said. In 2001, the apparel company produced an anti-doping commercial, narrated by Armstrong, addressing allegations that he had used performance-enhancing drugs by mocking the question, "What am I on?" and answering that he trained on his bicycle "six hours a day."

Brewing giant Anheuser-Busch followed Nike's lead, saying: "We have decided not to renew our relationship with Lance Armstrong when our current contract expires at the end of 2012." Soon after, other spon-

sors from our product packaging," a Honey Stinger spokesman said. An image of Armstrong's signature that was on the site's front page earlier in the day appeared to be gone late Wednesday.

The FRS Co., which makes energy, diet and health drinks, said Armstrong had resigned from its board.

If there was a silver lining in the day for Armstrong, it was that his major sponsors said they will continue to support the charity, which started as the Lance Armstrong Foundation 15 years ago. Another longtime sponsor, sportswear maker

Oakley, said it is withholding a decision until the International Cycling Union — the governing body for cycling — decides if it will fight USADA's sanctions against Armstrong. UCI has until Oct. 31 to appeal USADA's sanctions against Armstrong to the world Court of Arbitration for Sport. If not, the penalties will stand.

Armstrong, who Forbes has estimated is worth about \$125 million, was not paid a salary as Livestrong chairman and will remain on the charity's 15-member board. The duties of leading the board will be turned over to vice chairman Jeff Garvey, who was founding chairman in 1997.

Garvey will be responsible for big-picture strategic planning and will assume some of the public appearances and meetings that Armstrong used to handle. At the entrance to the Livestrong headquarters in Austin, autographed framed yellow jerseys from each tour win are mounted on a wall near the entrance. Armstrong had a conference call with employees on Wednesday to explain his decision.

"I've been better and I've been worse," Livestrong President and CEO Doug Ulman quoted Armstrong as telling employees when asked how he was feeling. Armstrong denies doping despite USADA's report, intended to explain its decision in August to punish Armstrong. He claims to

have passed hundreds of drug tests but chose not to fight USADA in one of the agency's arbitration hearings, saying the process was biased against him.

Crisis management experts say the denials aren't enough to mitigate damage to Livestrong. Gene Grabowski, executive vice president of Levick, a Washington, D.C.-based crisis and issues management firm, called Armstrong's move a good one for the foundation. "It helps take the bull's-eye off the chairman's back," Grabowski said. "It enables the charity to show it is taking the situation seriously. It probably won't satisfy everyone, but it will satisfy a good number of people. It's a step he had to take." Kelly O'Keefe, professor of brand strategy at Virginia Commonwealth University, said it may be too late to completely salvage Livestrong's reputation. And Armstrong may never be able to fully resume his public role with the group, he said.

"From the brand perspective, Armstrong is done," O'Keefe said.

Unlike Tiger Woods and Michael Vick, athletes who also were embroiled in off-the-field scandals, Armstrong is tainted by charges of cheating in his sport, not transgressions in his personal life. After time away, Woods and Vick could return to the playing field to help redeem their public image. □

Man held in NYC plot to blow up Federal Reserve

Continued from front

Authorities emphasized that the plot never posed an actual risk. However, they claimed the case demonstrated the value of using sting operations to

neutralize young extremists eager to harm Americans. "Attempting to destroy a landmark building and kill or maim untold numbers of innocent bystanders is about as serious as the imagination can conjure,"

said Mary Galligan, acting head of the FBI's New York office. "The defendant faces appropriately severe consequences."

Nafis appeared in federal court in Brooklyn to face charges of attempting to

use a weapon of mass destruction and attempting to provide material support to al-Qaida. Wearing a brown T-shirt and black jeans, he was ordered held without bail and did not enter a plea. His defense attorney had no comment outside court.

The defendant had sought assurances from an undercover agent posing as an al-Qaida contact that the terrorist group would support the operation.

"The thing that I want to do, ask you about, is that, the thing I'm doing, it's

he wanted to form a terror cell, the criminal complaint said.

In further conversations, authorities said Nafis proposed several spots for his attack, including the New York Stock Exchange — and that in a written letter taking responsibility for the Federal Reserve job he was about to carry out, he said he wanted to "destroy America." Other communications took place through Facebook, the complaint said.

A Twitter account with the suspect's name and photo

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This courtroom sketch shows Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis, 21, center, and his attorney Heidi Cesare, left, in Brooklyn Federal Court Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, in New York. Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis, 21, was arrested in a sting operation Wednesday morning after he parked a van filled with what he believed were explosives outside the building and tried to detonate it in a suicide mission, authorities said. (AP Photo/Elizabeth Williams)

under al-Qaida?" he was recorded saying during a meeting in bugged hotel room in Queens, according to the complaint.

In a September meeting in the same hotel room, Nafis "confirmed he was ready to kill himself during the course of the attack, but indicated he wanted to return to Bangladesh to see his family one last time to set his affairs in order," the complaint said.

But there was no allegation that Nafis actually received training or direction from the terrorist group.

Prosecutors say Nafis traveled to the U.S. on a student visa in January to carry out an attack. In July, he contacted a confidential informant, telling him

had six followers and two messages and was linked to a Facebook page that had been taken down.

Federal officials were at the home where Nafis was staying, a red brick building in the Jamaica neighborhood of Queens. Owner Rafiqul Islam said Nafis was staying with his second-floor tenants, and he was told he was related to the family. The tenants didn't answer their door and their apartment was dark.

Islam said the federal officials had come to the home when he was at work in Manhattan. He said Nafis had only lived there about a month or so.

"I didn't notice anything, he spoke to me very quietly," Islam said. □



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Iranian-American pleads guilty to plot against Saudi envoy

NEW YORK — The Iranian-American man charged in a plot to kill the Saudi ambassador to the United States pleaded guilty Wednesday to conspiracy and other counts in U.S. District Court in Manhattan. The defendant, Manssor J. Arbabsiar, a former used-car salesman from Corpus Christi, Texas, had been accused of conspiring to hire assassins from a Mexican drug cartel for \$1.5 million to kill the ambassador, Adel al-Jubeir. At the time the charges were announced, Attorney General Eric Holder said the plot had been approved by elements in the Iranian government. In court, Arbabsiar told Judge John F. Keenan that he was pleading guilty to

his own free will. "I take responsibility for my actions," he said. In response to questions from Keenan and later from a prosecutor, Edward Y. Kim, Arbabsiar said he had agreed to participate in a plan, which involved co-conspirators in the Iranian military, that initially called for kidnapping the ambassador, but it evolved into a plot to kill him in Washington. Iranian leaders have said their government had no involvement in the plot, and any suggestion to the contrary, a senior member of Iran's Parliament said last year, was undoubtedly "a new American-Zionist plot to divert the public opinion from the crisis Obama is grappling with." The judge told Arbabsiar on



Manssor Arbabsiar pleaded guilty Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, to plotting to assassinate Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the United States, agreeing to hire what he thought was a drug dealer in Mexico last year for \$1.5 million to carry out the attack with explosives at a Washington restaurant. (AP Photo/Nueces County Sheriff's Office)

Wednesday that he faced a maximum prison sentence of 25 years on three counts: one of conspiracy to commit an act of terrorism transcending national boundaries and two related to murder-for-hire. Preet Bharara, the U.S. attorney in Manhattan, said in a statement, "As Arbabsiar has now admitted, he was the extended murderous hand of his co-conspirators, officials of the Iranian military based in Iran, who plotted to kill the Saudi ambassador in the United States and were willing to kill as many bystanders as necessary to do so." Mary Galligan, the acting heading of the FBI's New York office, added, "Not only did this plot threaten the ambassador's life, the

planned attack targeted our nation's capital, where innocent lives would have been lost and the national psyche damaged." Holder praised the efforts of the law enforcement and intelligence agencies in the case, which included the Drug Enforcement Administration. The supposed assassination of the Saudi diplomat was to have occurred at a restaurant in Washington, in a bombing that could have killed many people. But no one was in imminent danger; Arbabsiar was dealing with a government informant. Sabrina Shroff, a federal public defender who represented Arbabsiar, declined to comment after the court proceeding. Arbabsiar is to be sentenced Jan. 23. □

Ukrainian man accused of disturbing Delta flight

**SHANNON DININNY
Associated Press**

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Ukrainian man, hung over from a 50-day drinking binge, said he believed the wing of the airplane was on fire when he disrupted a Salt Lake City-bound Delta Air Lines flight and had to be wrestled to the floor by passengers, authorities allege in a criminal complaint. Anatoliy N. Baranovich, 46, made his initial appearance in federal court Wednesday on complaints of damaging and disabling an aircraft and interfering with a flight crew. Federal authorities said Baranovich woke up during the plane's descent, started yelling in Russian and tried to open the rear exit door, damaging the plane's fuselage, before being restrained by passengers. U.S. Magistrate Paul War-

ner scheduled a detention hearing for Friday. Fellow passenger Mike Riegelman, a Boston resident who was flying in first class en route to Boise, Idaho, for a business trip, said Wednesday he was torn between feeling sorry for Baranovich and being impressed by the Ukrainian's drinking prowess. "He scared a lot of people though," Riegelman said. Baranovich boarded Delta Air Lines Flight 1215, bound for Salt Lake City, Monday evening in Boston. He was headed to Portland, Oregon. According to the criminal complaint filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court, Baranovich had been visiting family in the Ukraine for several weeks in an attempt to begin construction on a house. Unsuccessful in his efforts, Baranovich instead got drunk for the entire 50

days and "never sobered up." After the plane touched down, Baranovich got up from his seat and ran to the back of the aircraft, according to the complaint. He then tried to open the emergency exit door as a flight attendant ordered him to stop. The door jammed and caused an emergency inflatable slide to malfunction, which caused "extensive damage" to the plane's fuselage, the FBI said. Several passengers tried to wrestle Baranovich to the ground while he at-

tempted to open another emergency exit door. One passenger forced him to the ground and held him until the plane taxied to a gate, where law enforcement and medical personnel had been called. Flight attendants announced that there was a medical emergency on board, Riegelman said, but a neighboring passenger had told him the rear door was open. Police cars greeted the plane at the terminal, he said. "The flight attendant was a big guy, and he went screaming to the back of the plane. I've never seen

a big guy that big move that fast," Riegelman said. "Delta handled it well and, obviously, the passengers held onto the guy. The good news is people are alert and willing to help." Baranovich appeared "completely disheveled" after being escorted off the plane by police, Riegelman said. Baranovich was carrying a Ukrainian passport and U.S. visa. Officials said they do not believe he posed a terrorist threat. If convicted, Baranovich faces up to 20 years in federal prison for each count. □





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Feds: Suspect sent 'cannon fodder' to Somalia

AMY FORLITI
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A terrorism suspect used young men as "cannon fodder" when he helped send them from Minneapolis to their native Somalia to join the al-Qaida-linked group al-Shabab, a federal prosecutor said Wednesday. Assistant U.S. Attorney John Docherty told jurors during closing arguments of a nearly three-week trial

that they should convict Mahamud Said Omar, who is charged with five terror-related counts that accuse him of participating in a conspiracy and providing support to the terrorist group. Docherty said the evidence shows Omar helped feed fighters into a terror pipeline that recruited young men from Minnesota, which is home to the largest Somali population

in the U.S. "After other people had indoctrinated these young men, he helped them. He helped them physically and he helped them financially to get to Somalia to join al-Shabab," Docherty said. Defense attorney Andrew Birrell said the prosecution's case was built on the corrupt testimony of al-Shabab recruits who have repeatedly lied and only testified because they

hoped to reduce their own prison sentences. "This case demonstrates why our government should not make deals with terrorists," Birrell said. "They make the whole case unreliable." The government's case against Omar, 46, is the first to go to trial in a long-running investigation of recruiting by al-Shabab, a U.S.-designated terror group at the center of much of the violence

in Somalia. Authorities say that since 2007, more than 20 young men have gone to the East African nation from Minnesota to join the group. At least six of those men have died and others are presumed dead, according to family members and the FBI. Others are presumed to still be in Somalia. Earlier defendants in the case pleaded guilty and most have yet to be sentenced. Omar faces life in prison if convicted.

Docherty said there was a conspiracy in Minnesota to send men to Somalia to wage jihad against Ethiopians — who were brought into Somalia in 2006 by its weak U.N.-backed government, though they were seen by many Somalis as invaders. The prosecutor said Omar entered the conspiracy in 2007, when he met with two men on their way to Somalia at a restaurant, giving one man money and wishing both good luck.

Omar is accused of helping travelers get tickets, staying at an al-Shabab safe house in Somalia, providing \$1,000 for AK-47's and bringing two young men to the Minneapolis airport in August 2008.

Docherty ticked off key evidence for jurors: Omar's own statements, including when he told the FBI he went to Somalia to join al-Shabab; intercepted telephone conversations and testimony from other witnesses who either traveled to Somalia or helped travelers; and business documents, including money transfer and travel records. He reminded the jury of the death of Shirwa Ahmed, a Minneapolis man who killed himself in a suicide bombing in Somalia in 2008. □

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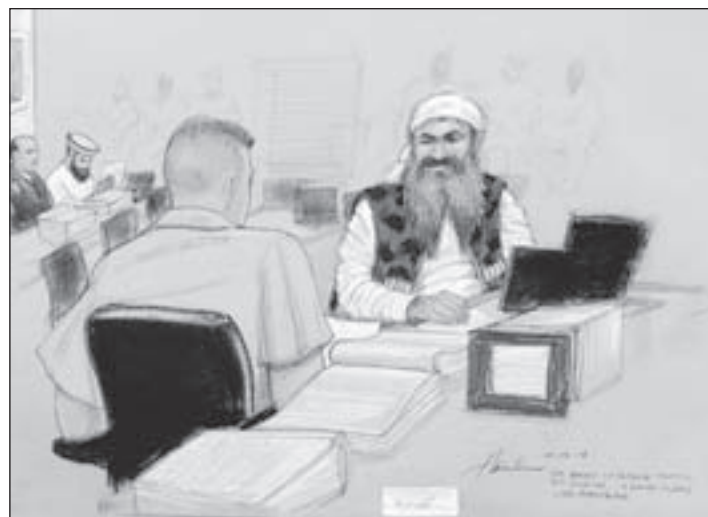
Accused 9/11 plotter lectures tribunal

BEN FOX
Associated Press

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP) — The self-styled terrorist mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks lectured a military court on government hypocrisy Wednesday and wore a previously banned camouflage vest to his pretrial hearing before being rebuked by the judge for his comments.

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed was in court as part of a weeklong hearing focusing largely on the secrecy rules that will govern his trial at the U.S. base in Cuba.

Mohammed was allowed to wear a hunting-style camouflage vest with his white tunic and turban over the objections of prosecutors, who feared it might disrupt the proceedings. It had no apparent effect, but his five-minute speech denouncing the government's arguments about the need to protect national security transfixed the court and drew a reprimand from the judge. Until that point, the 47-year-



Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, right, speaks with lawyer and U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Major Derek Poteet, a member of his legal team, while wearing a camouflage vest during the third day of the Military Commissions pretrial hearing against the five Guantanamo prisoners accused of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks at the Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base in Cuba, Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012.

old Mohammed sat quietly through a day of courtroom arguments on proposed rules for handling classified evidence in the war-crimes case. When he finally spoke, it was to point out what he saw as the prosecution's hypocrisy for seeking to keep secret some details of what happened to him during years of captivity in the CIA's se-

cret prisons. Mohammed told the judge, Army Col. James Pohl, that "the government uses national security as it chooses," urging him to keep that in mind as he considers requests from defense lawyers and the American Civil Liberties Union to scale back the rules for evidence and testimony. "Many can kill people un-

der the name of national security, and to torture people under the name of national security," the Arabic-speaking Mohammed said through a translator. "And detain their underage children under the name of national security." In an apparent reference to Osama bin Laden, Mohammed noted that "the president can take someone and throw them into the sea in the name of national security." He also made an oblique reference to Anwar al-Awlaki, the American-Yemeni militant killed in a September 2007 U.S. drone strike, and told the judge not to be affected by the "crocodile tears" of prosecutors when they refer to the nearly 3,000 people killed in the 2001 attacks.

"When the government feels sad for the killing of 3,000 on Sept. 11, we also should feel sorry that the U.S. government ... has killed thousands of people," Mohammed said, before correcting himself to say millions of people. □

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Bloomberg forming super PAC to influence 2012 races

RAYMOND HERNANDEZ
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NEW YORK – Seeking to reshape a national political debate he finds frustratingly superficial, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg of New York is plunging into the 2012 campaign in its final weeks, creating his own “super PAC” to direct millions of dollars in donations to elect candidates from both parties who he believes will focus on problem solving. Bloomberg, a billionaire and registered independent, expects to spend from \$10 to \$15 million of his money in highly competitive congressional, state and local races. The money would be used for a flurry of advertising on behalf of Republican and Democratic candidates who support three of his biggest policy initiatives: legalizing same-sex marriage, enacting tougher gun laws and overhauling schools. Among those Bloomberg will support are Angus King, an independent running for the U.S. Senate in Maine; Gloria Negrete McLeod, who is challenging a fellow Democrat, Rep. Joe Baca of California, whom the mayor believes has been weak on gun control; and Rep. Bob Dold, R-Ill., who has backed gun-control measures. The move reflects an eagerness from Bloomberg, who is entering the twilight of his mayoral term, to elect more centrist candidates who are willing to compromise and grapple with what he sees as grave problems confronting the country. Up to now, the mayor has played a relatively modest role in politics outside New York, occasionally donating

to causes or candidates he favors or holding fundraisers in his Manhattan town house for them. But two years ago, he signaled a desire to play a bigger role in combating more extreme forces in U.S. politics. The organization he is now establishing – and the money he will plow into races around the country – represents his most ambitious effort yet, one that will continue after he steps down as mayor in January 2014. “This spending sends a clear message that the mayor intends to keep his wallet open after he leaves office to influence national policy around issues like guns, education, and marriage equality,” said one top adviser to Bloomberg, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the mayor’s future. “If anything, leaving office will free him to do even more.”

Bloomberg has tapped Howard Wolfson, a deputy mayor and a veteran of congressional and presidential campaigns, to oversee the organization’s activities, like determining



New York City Michael Bloomberg during a news conference regarding funding for infrastructure at City Hall in New York, Oct. 17, 2012. Seeking to reshape a national political debate he finds frustratingly superficial, Bloomberg is plunging into the 2012 campaign in its final weeks, creating his own “super PAC” to direct millions of dollars in donations to elect candidates from both parties who he believes will focus on problem solving.

(Michael Appleton/The New York Times)

where to spend money and tailoring the themes of television advertisements. Wolfson will take a leave from City Hall to run the

committee between now and Election Day.

By entering the campaign at this stage, when less partisan voters are beginning to pay attention, Bloomberg and his aides are bet-

contests.

In all, Bloomberg intends to invest in as many as a dozen House and Senate races, although exactly which ones has not been decided, because the mayor and his advisers are assessing how the contests are unfolding and where he can have the most effect. Bloomberg’s move comes in the wake of the 2010 Supreme Court decision that paved the way for a flood of independent expenditures through so-called super PACs, which are playing an outsized role in elections this fall. Although his spending is on a much smaller scale, Bloomberg is joining other wealthy Americans bankrolling outside groups to influence elections, including the Koch brothers, the industrialists who have backed conservative causes, and George Soros, the billionaire investor who has championed liberal ones. □



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ARGO daily: 6:15 9:00 SP NEW R late show: 11:45	ARGO daily: 7:00 9:30 SP NEW R late show: 12:00
ALEX CROSS - STARTS FRIDAY daily: 4:00 6:30 8:45 matinee: 1:15 late show: 11:15 NEW PG-13	ALEX CROSS - STARTS FRIDAY daily: 5:00 7:15 9:30 matinee: 2:30 late show: 12:00 NEW PG-13
TINKERBELL SECRETS OF THE WINGS daily: 5:00 matinee: 12:15 2:30 NEW G	TINKERBELL SECRETS OF THE WINGS daily: 4:45 matinee: 2:15 NEW G
PITCH PERFECT daily: 4:00 6:45 PG-13 matinee: 1:15	PITCH PERFECT daily: 4:30 7:00 PG-13 matinee: 2:00
SINISTER daily: 9:15 R late show: 11:30	SINISTER daily: 9:30 R late show: 11:45
TAKEN 2 daily: 7:30 9:45 SP PG-13 late show: 12:00	TAKEN 2 daily: 7:45 10:00 SP PG-13 late show: 12:00
HERE COMES THE BOOM daily: 4:15 6:45 9:00 PG matinee: 1:30 late show: 11:30	HERE COMES THE BOOM daily: 5:00 7:30 9:45 PG matinee: 2:30 late show: 12:00
FRANKENWEENIE daily: 4:45 SP PG matinee: 12:00 2:00	FRANKENWEENIE daily: 4:45 SP PG matinee: 2:30
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA daily: 4:00 SP PG matinee: 12:00	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA daily: 4:00 SP PG matinee: 2:30
TINKERBELL SECRETS ...2D daily: 5:15 matinee: 12:30 2:45 NEW G	TINKERBELL SECRETS ...2D daily: 5:00 matinee: 2:45 NEW G

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Big Bird costumes hit the Halloween hot list!

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Big Bird, the star of the U.S. presidential debates, is also the outstanding costume character for Halloween.

The Yellow One is flying off the shelves after Mitt Romney's threat to do away with government support for PBS. President Barack Obama kept the Halloween dream alive Tuesday night when he brought up the bird again during their second debate. At 6 feet (1.8 meters), Angela Betancourt volunteered for Big Bird duty among a group of friends riffing on Sesame Street for a couple of Halloween parties and a meander along Lincoln Road in Miami Beach. She'll likely carry a suitcase as she passes out the popular kid character's resume.

"I grew up on Sesame Street and I think that PBS deserves all the funds it can get," said Betancourt, 30. "We all feel the same way."

Halloweencostumes.com sold out of several takes on Big Bird almost overnight after Romney's remark during the first presidential debate Oct. 3. Disguise Inc., Sesame Workshop's official costume maker, said interest is up among the thousands of retailers it services. The sellers of unlicensed Big Bird, especially sexed-up versions, beware.

"In the past this hasn't been a very popular costume, so when Big Bird flew the coop in such high numbers, it was definitely a big surprise," said Heimerl, who would not provide specific sales figures.



This undated image released by Disguise, Inc. shows a woman modeling a variation of Big Bird costume for women. Halloweencostumes.com sold out of several takes on Big Bird almost overnight after Romney's remark during the first presidential debate Oct. 3. Disguise Inc., Sesame Workshop's official costume maker, said interest is up among the thousands of retailers it services. The sellers of unlicensed Big Bird, especially sexed-up versions, beware.

(AP Photo/Disguise, Inc.)

Disguise Inc., Sesame Workshop's official costume maker, said interest is up among the thousands of retailers it services. The sellers of unlicensed Big Bird, especially sexed-up versions, beware.

"The only costumes autho-

rized by Sesame Workshop are with our licensee, Disguise, and we are working with our legal team on having the others removed from the market," said Ellen Lewis, a spokeswoman from over there on Sesame Street.

Betancourt went for sanctioned, sassy Big Bird in a yellow, flapper-style feathered dress and a dainty head piece. Shannon Ziegler of suburban Detroit will be Big Birdesque in a sexier mini with mesh cutouts, ringed thigh-highs and a fluffy hat that has google eyes. Ziegler hadn't decided between a sign that reads: "Big Bird for President" or one imploring: "Don't Use Me." An American flag may also be involved.

"When I saw that costume," said the 27-year-old Ziegler, "I thought, how perfect is that?"

For the record, Ziegler's a Republican who said she'll probably vote for Romney.

"Big Bird is not getting fired," she said. "Big Bird is big and strong and he will be able to stand his

ground. I think that Sesame Street will be strong no matter what."

Kimberly Wick, vice president of Costume World based in Deerfield Beach, Florida, also saw sleepy seller Big Bird become a hot seller overnight. The company sells and rents costumes of all kinds and has four stores around the country.

"We had Big Bird dancing in front of our Deerfield Beach store and people were honking and going crazy," Wick said. "It's been 20 years since Big Bird was popular." Cheryl Kerzner, vice president for product design and marketing for San Diego-based Disguise, said her retailers have also been clamoring for more Big Bird since the debate.

"It's been crazy," she said. "We cannot give them more. We are sold out."

Tim Waters, national political director for the United Steelworkers International Union, put Big Bird on the road at voter registration and other election-related events soon after the Oct. 3 debate, when Romney uttered these words before moderator Jim Lehrer of PBS: "I'm going to stop the subsidy to PBS. I'm going to stop other things. I like PBS, I love Big Bird. Actually, I like you, too. But I'm not going to keep on spending money on things to borrow money from China to pay for."

The 8-foot-2 (2.5-meter) character has been a huge crowd-pleaser, Waters said. "People are loving Big Bird," he said. □

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UN Syria envoy calls on Assad to implement truce

BEN HUBBARD
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The international envoy to the Syrian conflict on Wednesday called on President Bashar Assad's regime to take the lead in implementing a cease-fire during a major Muslim holiday later this month.

Lakhdar Brahimi said rebel representatives have assured him they will also observe the truce if the government takes the first step. "The Syrian people are burying hundreds of people each day, so if they bury fewer people during the days of the holiday, this could be the start of Syria's return from the dangerous situation that it ... is continuing to slip toward," he told

reporters in Beirut. Brahimi's push to get Assad and rebels seeking to topple him to stop fighting for the four-day Eid al-Adha feast set to begin Oct. 26 reflects how little progress international diplomacy has made in halting 19

months of deadly violence in Syria. Activists say more than 33,000 people have been killed.

Unlike his predecessor as joint U.N.-Arab League envoy, Kofi Annan, Brahimi has said he has no grand plan to end Syria's civil war.



Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati, right, meets with UN Arab League deputy to Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi, at the government palace, in Beirut, Lebanon, Wednesday, Oct 17, 2012. Brahimi is in Beirut to meet with Lebanese officials.

(AP Photo/Bilal Hussein)

Instead, he presented the truce as a "microscopic" step that would alleviate Syrian sorrow temporarily and provide the basis for a longer truce.

Even a short-term cease-fire faced hurdles. Both sides in the past have verbally signed on to cease-fires only to then blatantly disregard them. And before Brahimi spoke, Syria's government dismissed the plan, saying the rebels lack a unified leadership to sign the truce.

"There is the state, represented by the government and the army on one front, but who is on the other front?" asked an editorial in the Al-Thawra daily.

The scores of rebel units

fighting a brutal civil war against the regime have no single leader, and many don't communicate with each other.

Brahimi spoke following meetings with top Lebanese officials as part of a regional tour. He said all countries must work to stop the bloodshed by halting arms shipments so the conflict doesn't spread.

Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Qatar are sympathetic to the rebels and are believed to be facilitating their acquisition of weapons or arming them directly. Iran and Russia are Assad's biggest supporters and provide the Syrian military with most of its advanced weaponry. □

Rights group: Libya militias 'executed' Gadhafi loyalists

MAGGIE MICHAEL
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Libyan rebels appear to have "summarily executed" scores of fighters loyal to Moammar Gadhafi, and probably the dictator himself, when they overran his hometown a year ago, a human rights group said Wednesday.

The report by Human Rights Watch on alleged rebel abuses that followed the October 2011 capture of the city of Sirte in the final major battle of the eight-month civil war is one of the most detailed descriptions of what the group says were war crimes committed by the militias that toppled Gadhafi, and which still play a major role in Libyan politics today.

The 50-page report, titled "Death of a Dictator: Bloody

Vengeance in Sirte," details the last hours of Gadhafi's life on Oct. 20, 2011, when he tried to flee the besieged city. The long-time leader's convoy was struck by NATO aircraft as it tried to escape and the survivors were attacked by militias from the city of Misrata, who captured and disarmed the dictator and his entourage.

Misrata was subjected to a brutal weeks-long siege by Gadhafi's forces that killed hundreds of residents, and fighters from the city became among the regime's most implacable foes. HRW says it seems the Misratans took revenge against their prisoners in Sirte.

"The evidence suggests that opposition militias summarily executed at

least 66 captured members of Gadhafi's convoy in Sirte," said Peter Bouckaert, emergencies director at Human Rights Watch.

The New York-based group's report says that new evidence unearthed in its investigation includes a mobile phone video clip taken by militiamen showing a large number of prisoners from Gadhafi's convoy being cursed and abused by opposition fighters.

The remains of least 17 of the detainees in the phone video were later identified in a group of 66 bodies found at Sirte's Mahari hotel, some still with their hands tied behind their back. Human Rights Watch said it used hospital morgue photos to confirm the victims' identities. □

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Official: Shot Pakistani girl Malala is moving her limbs

RAPHAEL SATTER
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A 14-year-old girl shot in the head by the Taliban for promoting female education has been doing better since she was airlifted to England for specialized treatment and has been moving her limbs, a Pakistani official said Wednesday.

Although it's difficult to gauge what such an improvement might mean given that the exact nature of Malala Yousufzai's brain injuries have yet to be made public, one expert said the news was good.

"Any progress is hopeful," Dr. Jonathan Fellus, chief scientific officer at the New Jersey-based International Brain Research Foundation, said.

"This is the natural course of recovery that we would expect."

The Pakistani official, who spoke anonymously because he wasn't cleared to talk on the record about

the case, said he had been briefed by doctors and that Malala's condition was "definitely much better" since she arrived in England on Monday. He added that the girl was moving her limbs, although he didn't elaborate.

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, where Malala is being treated, released

a statement Wednesday saying Malala was in "stable condition and continued to impress doctors by responding well to her care," but didn't go into detail. The hospital's acting head of communications, Carole Cole, said there would be no further news on the case until Thursday. Malala's fam-



Pakistani students hold pictures of 14-year-old schoolgirl Malala Yousufzai, who was shot last Tuesday by the Taliban, during a protest condemning the attack, in Karachi, Pakistan. Malala has been doing better since she was airlifted to England for specialized treatment and has been moving her limbs, a Pakistani official said Wednesday.

(AP Photo/Fareed Khan)

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ily, which the hospital said was still in Pakistan, could not be reached for comment.

Malala was returning home from school in Pakistan last week when she was targeted by the Taliban for promoting female education and criticizing the militant group's behavior when they took over the Swat Valley, where she lived.

The attack, in which two of her classmates were also wounded, has horrified many in Pakistan and across the world.

The Taliban have threatened to target Malala again, because she promotes "Western thinking." Fellus said in a phone interview that physical abilities were often the first to return in cases of traumatic brain injury, and that didn't mean that the teen would necessarily make a full recovery.

Still, he said, "the earlier you start to see recovery, the better." □

Spain: decision over bailout within weeks

CIARAN GILES

JORGE SAINZ

Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — The Spanish government said Wednesday it will decide within the next few weeks whether to ask for outside financial help, noting it might opt for a precautionary line of credit instead of bailout cash.

Spain is under pressure to tap a eurozone financial aid system that would give the European Central Bank the green light to buy the country's government bonds. That would lower Spain's borrowing rates in bond markets, relieving its financial burden.

A spokeswoman for the Spanish economy ministry, said the government was also still considering not asking for any aid at all, not even a credit line. She was speaking on condition of anonymity in keeping with ministry policy. But credit rating agency Standard & Poor's on Wednesday delivered Spain another blow when it downgraded the creditworthiness of five indebted Spanish regions by one and two notches. They were Andalucia, Galicia, Madrid, Aragon and the Canary Islands.

The step came after the agency last week cut its rating on Spain's debt by two notches to BBB-, just a step above junk status, or non-investment grade. By indicating that it's a riskier asset to hold, S&P's downgrade may make it more expensive for the Spanish government to borrow money as it could spook bond investors.

The country's financial problems did not stem from government overspending, as in Greece's case, but from huge losses that its banks incurred after a property sector crash. Regional governments are also heavily in debt and need help from the central government in Madrid.

The issue of Spain's financial needs is likely to dominate a summit of the 27 leaders of the European Union on Thursday and Friday.

Germany has said Spain does not need a bailout and Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy may be reluctant to accept a rescue ahead of regional elections this Sunday. But analysts say that if Spain delays the request too long, investors may grow jaded and sell off its bonds again.

A 'bad bank' being set up to allow lenders to offload toxic real estate investments will hold up to €90 billion of assets, the Economy Ministry said Wednesday. The government aims to set up the bank, to be known by its Spanish acronym SAREB, on Nov. 19, the ministry said.

Establishing a bad bank is a requirement for Spain to gain access to a €100 billion loan by the eurozone group of nations to help those of its financial entities worst hit by the collapse of the country's bloated real estate sector with the onset of the crisis in 2008.

Rising speculation that Madrid will ask for help soon eased pressure in the bond markets Wednesday.

The interest rate on the country's benchmark 10-year bond was down 0.22 percentage points to 5.55 percent in midday trading. It has hovered close to 6 percent in recent weeks amid uncertainty over whether Spain would apply for aid or not.

The market improvement was also partly due to relief that Moody's rating agency did not cut its credit grade on the country to junk status, as had been widely feared in recent weeks. Instead, Moody's said after the European market close on Tuesday that it was keeping its Baa3 rating on Spain, the lowest investment grade.

Spain is at the core of Europe's financial crisis because, as the fourth largest economy in the 17-country eurozone, it would be hugely expensive to rescue should it lose access to bond markets.

The economy is also in terrible shape — it is in its second recession in three years, unemployment is near 25 percent and forecasts for the coming year are grim. □

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Cash-strapped Greek soccer team gets brothel bailout

DEREK GATOPOULOS

Associated Press

LARISSA, Greece (AP) — The world's oldest profession is giving a whole new meaning to love of the game. Players on a cash-strapped Greek soccer team now wear pink practice jerseys with the logos "Villa Erotica" and "Soula's House of History," two bordellos it recruited as sponsors after

trademark feta cheese.

But the amateur Voukefalas club — whose players include pizza delivery guys, students, waiters and a bartender — has raised eyebrows with its flamboyant sponsorship choice.

"Unfortunately, amateur football has been abandoned by almost everyone," said Yiannis Batziolas, the club's youthful chair-

man, who runs a travel agency and is the team's backup goalkeeper. "It's a question of survival." Prostitution is legal in Greece, where brothels operate under strict guidelines. Though garish neon signs advertising their services are tolerated, the

soccer sponsorship has ruffled some feathers in the sports-mad city of Larissa. League organizers have banned the pink jerseys during games, saying the deal violates "the sporting ideal" and is inappropriate for underage fans.

Batziolas acknowledges the sponsorship took his team by surprise. "They didn't believe it in the beginning," he said. "But when they saw the shirts printed, they thought it was funny." Near-bankrupt Greece is struggling to meet creditors' relentless demands to slash spending and keep the euro as its currency. As Greece heads toward a sixth year of recession, drastic budget cuts have hammered many ordinary people: Retirees have been left to cover their own medical expenses, children have lost school bus services, and sports teams have scrambled to find sponsors as businesses close under the burden of emergency taxes.

Brothel owner Soula Alevridou, the team's new benefactor, has already paid more than 1,000 euros (\$1,312) for players to wear her jerseys. The team is appealing the game ban, but that doesn't worry the 67-year-old Alevridou, who says she's only in it because she loves soccer.

"It's not the kind of business that needs promotion," she

said, dressed all in white and flanked by two young women in dark leggings at a recent game. "It's a word-of-mouth kind of thing." Her businesses, plushly decorated pastel-colored

bungalows where 14 women are employed, have weathered the country's financial disaster far better than most, and she readily acknowledges her success. □



Voukefalas players, a small amateur soccer club, warm up before a local championship match in the city of Larissa, central Greece. A cash-strapped Greek soccer team has found a new way to pay the bills, with help from the world's oldest profession. Players are wearing bright pink practice jerseys emblazoned with the logos of the Villa Erotica and Soula's House of History, a pair of pastel-colored bordellos recruited to sponsor the team after drastic government spending cuts left the country's sports organizations facing ruin.

(AP Photo/Nikolas Giakoumidis)

drastic government spending cuts left the country's sports clubs facing ruin. Other teams have also turned to unconventional financing. One has a deal with a local funeral home and others have wooed kebab shops, a jam factory and producers of Greece's

man, who runs a travel agency and is the team's backup goalkeeper. "It's a question of survival." Prostitution is legal in Greece, where brothels operate under strict guidelines. Though garish neon signs advertising their services are tolerated, the

Paraguay diplomats to leave Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— The top Paraguayan envoy in Venezuela says that President Hugo Chavez's government has ordered Paraguay's remaining diplomats to leave.

Charge d'affaires Victor Casartelli says he and three other diplomats in Caracas

have been told by Venezuela's Foreign Ministry to leave this week.

Venezuela's Foreign Ministry has not responded to calls seeking comment.

The expulsion of Paraguay's diplomats follows a bitter dispute between the two

South American countries that began in June when Paraguay's congress impeached and ousted then-President Fernando Lugo.

Lugo was allied with Chavez, and in July the two governments withdrew their ambassadors amid rising tensions. □



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Uruguay takes historic step on abortion

MICHAEL WARREN

Associated Press

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP)

— Uruguay's Senate legalized first-trimester abortions for all women Wednesday in a groundbreaking measure that came with so many strings attached it left neither side in the bitter debate completely satisfied. Senators voted 17-14 to back the measure, which has already passed the lower house and President Jose Mujica is expected to quickly sign into law. The legislation establishes that the public health care system must guarantee every woman the freedom to decide without pressure whether or not to have the procedure.

But it comes with so many conditions that both sides wonder how Uruguay will keep this promise.

Among other things, a clear declaration that "every adult woman has the right to decide whether to end her pregnancy during the first 12 weeks of gestation" was sacrificed in order to get enough votes for passage. In its place, lawmakers agreed to 10 pages of

fine print intended to bring about the same results. It's not the best law, "and not the solution we wanted, but it's an advance," said Sen. Luis Gallo, a supporter and member of the ruling Broad Front coalition. Women who decide to get abortions can now avoid

coalition's senators voted in favor, joined by one member of the opposition, Jorge Saravia of the center-right National Party.

The immediate reaction to Wednesday's vote was muted since the result had been expected.

When Senate president

tests, just a blast of fresh anti-abortion graffiti painted overnight on the sidewalks outside Parliament.

"It's a huge step," ruling coalition Sen. Rafael Michelini said, adding that women will now no longer have to ask the state for permission. "The woman who decides to have an abortion, does it."

There are no firm estimates for how many women have obtained abortions illegally in Uruguay, but thousands were ending up in hospitals with complications each year until the government made morning-after pills widely available. Ruling party lawmakers said reducing dangers from illegal abortions was their primary motivation.

Opponents vowed to overturn the measure, either through a popular plebiscite or by defeating the Broad Front government in the next presidential elections.

"This project is an attack on life and that's why we have voted against it. If we win power in the 2014 elections, we'll seek to overturn it," National Party Sen. □



Pro-life demonstrators dressed in animal costumes holding protest signs that read in Spanish; "Save the humans," perform in front of the Uruguayan Congress in Montevideo, Uruguay, Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012. The Uruguayan Senate on Wednesday voted to legalize all first trimester abortions in a groundbreaking step in Latin America.

(AP Photo/Matilde Campodonico)

the "humiliating secrecy" of illegal abortions, he argued.

All the ruling Broad Front

Danilo Astori declared the measure's passage, a small group of abortion rights activists briefly applauded.

There were no street pro-

Crack addicts rounded up in Rio slum

JULIANA BARBASSA

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)

— Days after police stormed one of Rio de Janeiro's most dangerous shantytowns to seize back territory long held by a powerful drug dealing organization, city health and welfare workers are working to ease the despair and devastation left behind among hundreds of crack cocaine addicts suddenly without drugs.

Since Sunday, when more than 2,000 heavily armed officers stormed into the Mangueiras and Jacarezinho complexes, crews working with police support by Wednesday had rounded up 231 crack users, and another 67 who had migrated elsewhere looking for the drug.

The area had been Rio's biggest open-air crack market, known as "cracolândia," or "crackland," where hundreds of users bought

the drug, consumed it and lingered in shacks and on blankets, picking through trash for recyclables to sell so they could buy more.

"These people have to be cured and treated," Jose Mariano Beltrame, who heads security for Rio state, said during a Tuesday visit

to the area. "They're not coming back to Jacarezinho and Mangueiras; the area is now occupied."

Drug dealers tired of the hassle posed by the addicts and by incursions of city health and welfare workers earlier this year banned crack in Mandela, one of



A young suspected crack user covers her face as she is escorted by a social worker to a waiting van near the Parque Uniao slum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012. A crew of social workers, psychologists and police rounded up drug users found in the streets Wednesday, and took them to shelters. The adults don't have to stay, and the majority leave as soon as they've had a meal and a shower.

(AP Photo/Felipe Dana)

the slums. Police now have taken over the entire complex housing about 70,000 people as part of a state program to make Rio safer before the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics.

In the days after the occupation, officers were still searching for guns, drugs and suspects, but other city services were already making headway. The garbage removal company ran its own mega-operation, removing 220 tons of trash. City utility workers replaced more than 300 street lights. The crew of welfare workers, psychologists and others who provide help rounded up drug users found in the streets and took them to shelters. Adults don't have to stay; of the 215 adults picked up from the streets between Sunday and Tuesday, half had left the shelters by Tuesday night, the city health department said. □

Caribbean Briefs

German man dies in shootout with Dominican police

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — Authorities in the Dominican Republic say police have killed a German man and arrested two other Germans during a shootout in the popular tourist town of Sosua. Police spokesman Diego Pesqueira says Wednesday's shooting occurred when officers tried to serve a search warrant to hunt for illegal weapons and other items. He says three officers were wounded. Pesqueira says slain suspect Peter Demetrick was wearing a bulletproof vest. No hometown has been released for him.

The spokesman says officers arrested 61-year-old Peter Brunck of Meisenheim, Germany, as well as a German woman whose identity he has not released. □

Barbados high school suspends 265 students

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (AP) — A high school principal in the eastern Caribbean island of Barbados has suspended 265 students for what he said were school uniform violations.

Matthew Farley issued the suspension letters after he and other teachers inspected students at Graydon Sealy Secondary School this week. The students have been suspended for up to five days. Farley's decision angered dozens of parents who arrived at the school on Tuesday, prompting officials to call police. Among the violations listed are skirts that were too short and pants that were too baggy. The school has a total of 942 students who are required to wear white shirts and red pants or skirts. □



After 25 wonderful years of marriage:

Robert and Adele Kiklis renew their vows on Aruba

After 25 years of marriage, Mr. Robert and Mrs. Adele Kiklis have renewed their vows in Aruba. This ceremony took place on the beach in front of the Radisson Resort, on the October 16, 2012. The vow renewal took place in front of Mr. Ruben Trappenberg and Lisa Dammerman, Wedding specialist at the Radisson Resort who was in charge of their renewal. After the vow renewal, the couple had a very romantic dinner on the beach. Last year the couple visited our island for the first time. They came to celebrate



Adele's birthday, and this year her husband surprised her with a return trip to Aruba to renew their vows. Adele told us she has been to many islands in the Caribbean, and Aruba is the only one that she fell in love with, especially the local people. In fact, last year when they were leaving Aruba it was the first time she felt she did not want to go home from her vacation. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Kiklis many more happy years of marriage! - Story and Photos by Maritza Tromp Lacle.□

Robert and Adele Kiklis enjoy a romantic dinner on the beach.



The happy couple Robert and Adele Kiklis, who renewed their vows on Aruba after 25 wonderful years of marriage.



Robert and Adele Kiklis, with Ruben Trappenberg and Lisa Dammerman.

At Tierra del Sol Golf Course: Golfer Cisco Quant Wins

3rd Annual Heritage Cup

Noord -- It was a calm day on the golf course at Tierra del Sol, where golf players are not ordinarily used to easy weather conditions. For the 5th and final round of the 3rd annual Heritage Cup sponsored by Ling & Sons Supercenter, Ray Perez, the leader going into the final championship, played neck and neck with Quant on the front 9 holes of the golf course, both making 17 stableford points heading into the back 9. As Quant shot a birdie on the 10th hole, he jumped ahead with a 3 point lead after Perez delivered a dou-

ble bogey from the middle of the fairway. Three holes later Quant made another birdie on the 14th giving him a comfortable lead to hold on to with four holes to play. He was that day's ultimate winner with 35 stableford points, which also awarded him the grand prize. Shine Helmen came in, in 2nd place with 35 points by way of scorecard playoff, and third place winner Liam v. Ramshorst, finished the championship with 34 stableford points. Head Golf Pro Adam Williamson reports it was a real battle out there, on the golf



course. Hunt Riley and William Salazar who placed in the top four positions going into the championship had a chance to win as well, nevertheless, they were not able to finish well enough to upset Quant. Perez who was the leader going into the finals, wasn't unfortunately able to hold on to his position, going into the back 9. There is a lot of



Beauty On The Beach

Diana and Anabela

Sisters Diana and Anabela are in Aruba with their parents. It is their first time in Aruba and they love the freedom to come and go wherever they want! They are staying at Occidental Grand.

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pressure, on tournament days, Williamson adds, these players have had quite a stretch over the summer months up to the final event, and it has been most enjoyable to watch, he states. Prizes were also awarded to golfers coming in closest to the pin, Ted Noble, on #3, Ernand DeLisle on #7, Libby Ter Weeme

on #13; Shine Helmen on #15 and Rey Rasmijn on #17. Event sponsor Ling & Son's Supercenter awarded the top 3 overall winners and the closest to the pin, of the 3rd annual Heritage Cup at Tierra Del Sol Golf Course, extravagant baskets of goodies, and gift certificates. □



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Thistle is looking for friends and family members



We would like to introduce Thistle to you, one of the donkeys that is living at the Aruban Donkey Sanctuary. Thistle came to us by accident.

One of the cactus fences, that keep the donkeys inside the Sanctuary, had fallen down and donkey Esmeralda had run away. The volunteers could not find her and they were worried, as she was roaming somewhere on the streets. After a few weeks there was a phone call from the neighbors: two donkeys were standing near their house. That was mystifying, as we were missing only one donkey. When we investigated, it appeared that these two donkeys were unknown to us, but they were easy to catch and they happily walked

with us to the Sanctuary, Thistle in the front with a halter on, and his friend Espresso sauntering behind us. Meanwhile Thistle has been moved to Sta. Lucia, because he escaped at Bringamosa. It was the same old story: a hole in the cactus fence and a missing donkey.

Finally we found Thistle in the company of another donkey in San Nicolas. Fortunately Thistle is a friendly, easy-going donkey, so he could be caught without much fuss. And so he is back in the fold, loving every minute.

This beautiful donkey has been provided with a chip, just like all the other donkeys. On the chip is information about the donkey and its medical history. The donkeys at the sanctuary have

a lot of friends with whom they can play all day long. And they love living there:

they are well-cared for, they are fed and watered and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers for the sanctuary.

The volunteers are trying to cover the various costs with all kinds of activities and the sale of great donkey memorabilia in the shop. Fortunately, there are also visitors who wish to adopt a donkey, who buy something at the donkey shop or who make a donation. Thus they help support us. Everyone is welcome to visit the sanctuary, which has opening hours from 9 am until 4 pm and in the weekend from 10 am until 3. Entry is free of charge and one can enjoy a soft drink, a cup of coffee or a refreshing ice cream.

The volunteers of the sanc-

tuary are hoping that somebody will adopt this friendly, lovely donkey. Of course the donkey will keep on living at the sanctuary; you only need to pay AWG. 30,- per month for the donkey's keep. With this amount you help support the sanctuary as well as your own donkey. And you will receive a beautiful certificate and a super T-shirt and your name and photo will be posted on our website.

So please call the sanctuary at 593-2933; you can also register via the website www.arubandonkey.org or donate money on bank account number 40.03.025 at the Aruba Bank! Just do it! Would you like to follow the donkeys on Facebook: surf to Donkey Sanctuary Aruba please. □



Bonbini to the first regional Global Store!

Opening of the First Louis Vuitton Maison in Sao Paulo

Louis Vuitton will open the doors to a whole new boutique experience for the region with the launching of its first Global Store in Brazil this month.

Located inside the renowned Cidade Jardim in Sao Paulo, this Global Store will offer unexpected and unique experiences in elegant travel to visitors from around the world.

Louis Vuitton Aruba is looking forward to this amazing addition to the Louis Vuitton experience, enhancing the luxury brand's presence in the South/Central America and Caribbean Region.

The opening of this Global Store in Sao Paulo will be a milestone in Louis Vuitton's journey in Brazil: a country

where it has been present since 1989.

Inspired by a residential style, the Louis Vuitton Sao Paulo Global Store will welcome visitors by unveiling an intimate universe which has been crafted to discover Louis Vuitton's collections, as well as partaking in a cultural experience to discover the heritage, craftsmanship and creativity of the House.

Besides showcasing a complete selection of both women's and men's collections, the Louis Vuitton Sao Paulo Global Store will also pioneer new and exciting ventures. The introduction of the first Louis Vuitton Travel Room in Latin America - an area especially dedicated to travel luggage and



accessories - seals Louis Vuitton's desire to transform every travel experience into a personal journey.

The Sao Paulo Global Store will also be the first Louis Vuitton store in Latin America to offer an exclusive personalization service, the

"Haute Maroquinerie". This feminine offer for elegant women will bid the possibility to personalize Louis Vuitton iconic shapes to design a unique handbag made from the finest leathers - the ultimate expression of Louis Vuitton's savoir-faire.

Louis Vuitton will pay homage to Brazil's local creativity and culture by unveiling at this occasion a piece of travelling furniture created by the talented brothers: Fernando and Humberto Campana. Called "Maracatu", this travel cabinet features Louis Vuitton craftsmanship and heritage with a creative, Brazilian twist. Part of the forthcoming "Objets Nomades" collection, it will be presented in other Louis Vuitton stores worldwide after making its grand debut at the Global Store in Sao Paulo.

The newest Louis Vuitton collections are available on Aruba as well, at the exclusive Louis Vuitton boutique, located at Renaissance Mall in downtown Oranjestad. □

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ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad.

Driftwood owner Herby

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Oracle Team USA Spithill competes during the fleet finals of the America's Cup World Series sailing event in San Francisco, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. J.P. Morgan BAR of England is in the background. Associated Press

AC champ Spithill worried about mates in capsize

BERNIE WILSON
AP Sports Writer

As the hulls of his 72-foot catamaran dug into the waves on San Francisco Bay and the boat began to tumble stern over bow, America's Cup champion Jimmy Spithill of Oracle Racing thought only about his mates and how they'd come out of the scary crash. Spithill had capsized a 45-foot version of the fast catamaran before, but the 72-footer that flipped Tuesday is more powerful and carries a bigger crew. "You're a lot higher in the air," Spithill told The Associated Press by phone on Wednesday. "You're 70 feet in the air. My biggest concern is there are a lot more of your teammates on board. And really, until you know everyone is accounted for and safe, that's probably the worst part of the experience."

Continued on Page 18



RAIN DELAY

NLCS Game 3 delayed by rain

San Francisco Giants right fielder Hunter Pence catches a fly out in foul territory by St. Louis Cardinals' Allen Craig during the fourth inning of Game 3 of baseball's National League championship series, Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, in St. Louis.

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Tiger Woods is wrapping up a busy season

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

Tiger Woods hasn't been this busy on the golf course in seven years, a season that will wrap up in California with his annual World Challenge.

Still to be determined is whether he'll keep playing that many events.

On Wednesday, Woods announced the 18-man field for the World Challenge, to be played the week after Thanksgiving at Sherwood Country Club. Woods is the defending champion, outlasting Zach Johnson to end a two-year drought.

The field features 13 players from the Ryder Cup — all but Phil Mickelson from the United States, only Graeme McDowell and Ian Poulter from Europe — along with Hunter Mahan, Nick Watney, Bo Van Pelt, Rickie Fowler and Jason Day. All of them are among the top 30 in the world.

For Woods, the World Challenge will be his 24th tournament of the year, which includes the Ryder Cup and the exhibition he played last week in Turkey.



USA's Tiger Woods plays a tee-shot during his World Golf Final Group 1 match against Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland in Belek, Antalya, Turkey, Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012.

Associated Press

That's his busiest schedule since he played 25 times in 2005, not including the Skins Game and PGA Grand Slam of Golf.

"It was nice to be able to — other than one setback at Doral this year — to be healthy enough to where I have the opportunity to play as much as little as I want," Woods said in a conference call. "It wasn't something I was forced to sit on the sidelines, forced

to rehab and get myself back into a position where I can compete. I was able to compete and play as many tournaments as I wanted to. So that was a positive.

"We'll see going forward what that holds."

Woods added four tournaments to his 2012 season that he had never played as a pro — Abu Dhabi on the European Tour, the Honda Classic, the Green-

brier Classic and the CIMB Classic next week in Malaysia, which is unofficial.

In his last full season — without coping with injury or chaos in his personal life — he played 20 times in 2009. Woods appeared to downplay the notion that he would consider taking up membership on the European Tour. The European Tour is expected to start counting the Ryder Cup (and Presidents Cup) toward the minimum 13 tournaments required. Woods, in response to a question last week in Turkey, said he would look into it.

Luke Donald last year became the first player to win the money title on both tours in the same season, and Rory McIlroy is poised to win both titles this year. Woods would have won the European Tour money title multiple times except that he wasn't a member and didn't play the minimum events, which at the time was 11.

"They asked me the question whether or not I would entertain it, and I said, 'Yeah, I entertained it early

on in my career,' because at the time there was only 11 events ... and I played once or twice in Europe, and that put me at nine or 10. Now it's at 13 — 13 is a little bit more difficult to get to, but that's one of the reasons why I think they implemented the Ryder Cup and the Presidents Cup as events that count towards that number.

"I certainly can see the benefits and also see the negatives of playing that much golf," he said. "But going forward, I don't know."

The Abu Dhabi Championship announced earlier Wednesday that Woods and McIlroy will headline the field next January. It was held this year the same week as Torrey Pines, and Woods missed the San Diego event for the first time since 1997 when he was healthy. Next year, Torrey Pines is the week after Abu Dhabi.

Woods didn't rule out playing Torrey Pines, but said he won't map out a schedule until after the World Challenge. □

Continued from Page 17

"There were some cuts and bruises, but it was pretty amazing everyone was able to walk away from it," Spithill said. "There were no significant injuries. It's very, very fortunate to get through that and to get the boat back in one piece. Things could have been a lot worse considering the conditions last night."

The boat, being tested for the 34th America's Cup next year, carried 11 crewmen, a designer and two extra sailors. All were wearing crash helmets and life vests.

"The last thing I heard before we went over, and it became evident we were going to go over, was Jimmy yelling out, 'Make sure you have an eye on your mates,' said Jono MacBeth, a grinder.

Most of the crew rode out the capsize in the cockpit in one hull, but two of them

had to cling to the net that forms a platform between the two hulls. Eventually, everyone had to jump into the cold water to get clear of the boat.

The boat pitch-poled, or tumbled end-over-end. It's typically the scariest way a multihull can wipe out.

It took several hours for the syndicate to bring the boat to shore after it was swept by a strong ebb tide more than four miles past the Golden Gate Bridge. The boat turned upside down and was towed that way back to the team's base at Pier 80, arriving about 1 a.m. PDT.

Spithill said the boat appears to be in relatively good shape considering what it went through. The boat was lifted out of the water Wednesday afternoon and the shore crew was going to wheel it into a shed to assess the damage.

Initial reports said the 131-



In this photo taken Tuesday Oct. 16, 2012 and provided by Oracle Team USA, crew members hang from the mesh netting after the Oracle Team USA AC72 boat capsized on San Francisco Bay in San Francisco. The America's Cup champion syndicate is assessing the damage to its 72-foot catamaran, after it capsized and was swept by a strong current more than four miles past the Golden Gate Bridge before rescue boats could control it.

Associated Press

foot wing sail was destroyed. Spithill said it was badly damaged but thinks it can be fixed. He said the syndicate was still recovering pieces of the high-tech wing on Wednesday.

Oracle Racing is owned by software billionaire Larry Ellison, the head of Oracle

Corp.

Only a handful of syndicates have begun testing the 72-footers, which cost between \$8 million and \$10 million. This was the first capsize.

"It was always a possibility. I really hoped that it wouldn't happen," said

Spithill, an Australian who at age 30 in 2010 became the youngest skipper to win the America's Cup. "However, the most important thing is everyone is safe and sound and we got the boat and components back to shore. Now we have to learn from it. No doubt it's a setback in our program, but there is no doubt the team will bounce back from it and not let it affect us. We can still go out there and defend the Cup for the United States."

Spithill doesn't think the 72s are dangerous.

"Just like race cars, you're always going to be pushing," he said. "That's part of the game, is managing the risk."

The crash happened as the crew was turning away from the wind, which was blowing at about 25 knots. Spithill said the crew had performed the same maneuver four times earlier Tuesday. □

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NLCS Game 3 delayed by rain in 7th Cards lead 3-1

By R.B. FALLSTROM
AP Sports Writer

ST. LOUIS (AP) -- Game 3 of the NL championship series was delayed because of rain in the seventh inning with the St. Louis Cardinals leading the San Francisco Giants 3-1.

The game at Busch Stadium was stopped with two outs in the bottom of the seventh and heavy rain was still falling 1 1/2 hours after the tarp came out. Major League Baseball anticipated there would be no problems resuming the game not long after 8 p.m. CDT, noting radar showed the weather system was expected to leave the area.

The Cardinals and Giants are tied at one game each.

Matt Carpenter hit a two-run homer off Giants ace



St. Louis Cardinals' Matt Carpenter (13) watches the ball as he hits a two-run home run during the third inning of Game 3 of baseball's National League championship series against the San Francisco Giants, Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, in St. Louis.
Associated Press

Ushers pursued and finally apprehended a fan who jumped out of the stands to get a baseball near the warning track in left field, and then jugged in and out of aisles to elude several ushers who had been closing in.

The storm had been widely anticipated. Some forecasts called for a 70 percent chance of rain. Both managers fielded questions Tuesday and Wednesday about whether the probability of precipitation would affect their selection of the starting pitcher.

Before the game, the Giants' Bruce Bochy and the Cardinals' Mike Matheny said weather was something they couldn't worry about. Kyle Lohse worked 5 2-3 innings for St. Louis and Cain was lifted after giving up a run-scoring groundout to Shane Robinson just before the umpires called for the tarpaulin.

"I've been caught before where you try to predict what's going to happen with the rain and started," Bochy said. "Just a couple years ago I started a pitcher thinking the same thing and it didn't rain for four or five innings. Then I put my starter in and then it started raining, and so it came back to bite me." Matheny said rainy weather was "part of being in the Midwest."

"We get this quite a bit," Matheny said. "We understand that these guys do a good job of forecasting, but you never know for sure." The tarp came out before the Giants could announce a replacement for Cain, although Javier Lopez was trotting in from the bullpen. □

Dempsey's 2 goals help U.S. beat Guatemala 3-1

DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Kansas (AP) — Clint Dempsey scored twice as the United States rallied to beat Guatemala 3-1 Tuesday night and reach the last round of continental qualifying for the World Cup.

The Americans needed only a draw to advance to the six-team finals in North and Central America and the Caribbean qualifying. After Carlos Ruiz put Guatemala ahead in the fifth minute, Dempsey set up Carlos Bocanegra's goal in the 10th, then scored in the 18th and 36th minutes. Dempsey equaled Brian McBride for third-most international goals in U.S. history with his pair at Kansas City lifting him to 30.

The U.S., seeking its seventh straight World Cup appearance, topped its semifinal group with 13 points.

Guatemala, which has never appeared in a World Cup, was eliminated when Dane Richards scored two goals late in the second half in Jamaica's 4-1 win over Antigua and Barbuda. Guatemala and Jamaica had 10 points apiece, but the

Jamaicans advanced with a superior goal difference.

The Americans were the more aggressive team that coach Jurgen Klinsmann has been trying to develop and less like the side that struggled over a muddy cricket pitch to a 2-1 victory over Antigua on Friday — an outcome that took most of the pressure off Tuesday night's game.

Still, Guatemala caused tension for the Americans when Ruiz rounded goalkeeper Tim Howard in the opening minutes and side-footed the ball into the goal. But the equalizer came just five minutes later when Graham Zusi, playing in his home stadium, sent a corner kick arcing into the penalty area, where Dempsey redirected it to an unmarked Bocanegra at the far post.

Ruiz nearly scored again in the 18th minute when his header went over the crossbar, but the Americans quickly came back on the counter. The ball was pushed ahead to Eddie Johnson on the wing, and he found Dempsey cutting to the net ahead of defender Jonathan Lopez. □

Matt Cain in the third inning. Carpenter came into the game after Cardinals star Carlos Beltran left after the first inning because of a strained left knee.

This is the third game delayed by rain this postseason. Two games between the Yankees and Orioles in Baltimore began late because of inclement weather.

An announcement was posted on the scoreboard shortly after the downpour began, saying a severe weather warning had been issued by the National Weather Service.

The rain intensified less than 10 minutes after the field was covered, chasing most fans who had remained in their seats up to that point. Spotters for the National Weather Service reported 60 mph winds in nearby St. Charles County.

A highlight of the delay was a Pac-Man style chase.

Keselowski not backing down as he heads to Kansas

JENNA FRYER

Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) —

Brad Keselowski held serve through the first half of the NASCAR title race, due in part to a smart strategy with his Penske Racing team.

It just didn't work last week. Keselowski's lead in the standings was sliced in half when he ran out of fuel at Charlotte Motor Speedway 59 laps from the finish of a race that was a chess match for crew chiefs at the drop of the green flag. He had dominated the race, but had to settle for a disappointing 11th-place finish.

Keselowski and crew chief Paul Wolfe immediately put the miscalculation behind them and got ready for Kansas Speedway, site of Sunday's race and Round 6 of the 10-race Chase for the Sprint Cup.

"I know I speak for everyone ... when I say we can't wait to get to Kansas to prove that our finish at Charlotte was an anomaly, a blip on the radar," Keselowski said.

He goes to Kansas, where



Brad Keselowski prepares for practice for Saturday's NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race in Concord, N.C., Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012.

he won his first NASCAR race last season, with a slight advantage over the competition: Keselowski got two days of track time on the repaved surface during an August tire test. The track opened on Wednesday for a two-day test, but Keselowski is one of only eight drivers who has already been there.

Very little had gone wrong for Keselowski until last weekend. He got a win in

the Chase opener at Chicago and again in a fuel mileage race at Dover. He arrived in Charlotte with a 14-point lead in the standings over five-time NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson. Denny Hamlin, who sits third in the standings, believes luck has played a significant part in making the Penske team look good so far. "They've just been getting the right breaks at the right time," Hamlin said.

"They've been fortunate that the cautions haven't fallen where it's hurt them. Every time I do that, I get that caution, and it just kills us. I think they've looked at race histories and done a good job with their strategy, and that's part of racing as much as speed is nowadays. They've done the best job at the strategy."

Up until Charlotte, when Keselowski stayed out one

lap too long. Even worse, his tank ran dry just as he passed the entrance to pit road, so he had to coast for an entire lap, costing him even more time. Keselowski conceded after it "was the worst-case scenario. That's part of the breaks."

Indeed, it was at minimum a seven-point swing in the standings. Although Keselowski led a race-high 139 laps, eventual winner Clint Bowyer's fuel strategy still may have beaten him, so it's more accurate to assume he would have at least finished fourth.

His 11th-place finish allowed Johnson, who finished third, to slice his deficit to seven points. And Hamlin, who finished second, is 15 points back from Keselowski.

Wolfe, for his part, said nothing will change going forward.

"What got us to this point is being aggressive with our strategy," Wolfe said. "We aren't going to change that approach as we run through the Chase. And 90 percent of the time, it works out for us, and we get the finishes we want." □



New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter reacts after injuring himself in the 12th inning of Game 1 of the American League championship series against the Detroit Tigers early Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012, in New York.

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Derek Jeter will have surgery on his broken left ankle, and the New York Yankees say the star shortstop could need four to five months to completely recover.

The Yankees said Wednesday

that Jeter will be operated on Saturday by Dr. Robert Anderson in Charlotte, North Carolina. The timetable the team announced means Jeter likely would be ready to return sometime between

Jeter to have surgery, 4 to 5 months for recovery

the start of spring training in mid-February and late spring training in mid-March.

General manager Brian Cashman called that a conservative estimate and left open the possibility that Jeter could come back sooner.

Jeter had scans Sunday, which confirmed the fracture, and he saw Anderson on Tuesday.

"There's no new information," Cashman said. "Nothing seemed worse than what our team doctors saw."

Jeter has not accompanied the Yankees in Detroit. Jeter, the Yankees' 38-year-old captain, broke his ankle

Saturday in the 12th inning of the AL championship series opener against Detroit while trying to field a ground ball.

Cashman said the four-to-five month timetable represents when Jeter would be fully ready to come back and play in a game.

"My understanding is that it's possible he will be ready earlier than that timeframe," Cashman said. "But it is best to at least put out there four, five months as a safer bet."

New York trailed the Tigers 3-0 in the series heading into Wednesday night's game. Jeter is the latest of the team's longtime stars to go down with an injury.

Mariano Rivera was lost for the season in May when he hurt his knee during batting practice.

This is the first time since 1981 the Yankees are playing in the postseason without both Jeter and Rivera. This wasn't the first time Jeter had recent trouble with his left leg. Manager Joe Girardi pulled him from a game at Boston on Sept. 12 because of what Jeter said was a sprained ankle. Jeter was a designated hitter for the next four games. Jeter fouled a ball off his left foot in Game 3 of the division series, again was taken out early, and was at DH the next day before returning to shortstop. □



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ALCS

Tigers top Yankees 2-1, need 1 win for pennant

DETROIT (AP) — The Detroit Tigers moved within one win of a berth in the World Series and pushed the New York Yankees to the brink of elimination with a 2-1 win on Tuesday.

Tigers starter Justin Verlander held the Yankees scoreless into the ninth inning as the hosts hung on in a tense final inning to take a 3-0 series lead.

Reliever Phil Coke gave up consecutive singles with two outs in the ninth before striking out playoffs star Raul Ibanez to end it.

"We put ourselves in a decent position, but that's all we have done," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said. Delmon Young hit a solo home run for the Tigers, and Miguel Cabrera had an RBI double.

Yankees starter Phil Hughes was lifted in the fourth because of a stiff back, and manager Joe Girardi's lineup shuffle — Alex Rodriguez was benched again — failed to revive New York's struggling bats.

"There were some good at-bats tonight. The ball was not carrying tremendously well tonight, we know that," Girardi said. "He ended up



Detroit Tigers' Justin Verlander reacts after New York Yankees' Eduardo Nunez hit a home run in the ninth inning during Game 3 of the American League championship series Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2012, in Detroit.
Associated Press

with three strikeouts. So our guys put the ball in play and tried to get on base, but when you face Verlander, you know what you're up against."

With the exception of a four-run ninth inning in Game 1, New York had been shut out for the entire series going into the ninth on Tuesday. Eduardo Nunez homered off Verlander, ending a streak of 37 innings by Detroit starters without allowing an earned run; the longest in a single postseason in the modern era.

Verlander fell just short of a second straight shutout, having stopped the Oakland Athletics in the deci-

sive fifth game of the division series. He was lifted after getting the first out of the ninth. He lasted 132 pitches, one shy of his career high. "Normally I guess you don't take Secretariat out in the final furlong, but that was pretty much it for him," Leyland said.

Coke came in and allowed two-out hits to Mark Teixeira and Robinson Cano, with the latter snapping a drought of 29 at-bats without a hit.

But Ibanez, who hit tying and winning homers in the same game in the ALDS against Baltimore and tied Game 1 of this series with a ninth-inning homer, worked the count full

before he struck out swinging at a breaking ball to end it.

"I've got faith in our bullpen. Coke did a great job in New York. He's done a great job for us all year, so I was OK with it," Verlander said. "And I was up around 130 pitches or so, so I don't think they're just going to leave me out there and sacrifice the rest of the postseason just for this game, especially when Coke's been throwing the ball extremely well."

Hughes matched Verlander in a scoreless duel until Young led off the Detroit fourth with a line drive over the wall in left field. It was his seventh homer in the past two post-

seasons. Five of those homers — in only eight games — have come against the Yankees.

"He had a great postseason last year and he picked up right where he left off," Leyland said. "A huge hit tonight."

Andy Dirks followed with a walk, and Hughes was pulled with an 0-2 count on Jhonny Peralta. David Phelps came on and got out of the inning, but the Yankees now have a pitching injury to go along with all their hitting problems.

The Tigers added an unearned run in the fifth when Eric Chavez — Rodriguez's replacement at third — misplayed a grounder. □

Study shows Cholesterol levels are falling in adults

ANAHAD O'CONNOR
© 2012 New York Times

Cholesterol levels in adults are falling, and changes in the amount of trans fats in the American diet may be part of the reason, new research suggests. The findings, published Tuesday in The Journal of the American Medical Association, were celebrated as something of a triumph by health authorities, who said the data showed that



the nation had reached its 2010 goal of getting the average total cholesterol level in adults below 200 milligrams per deciliter. Researchers examined a nationally representative sample of tens of thousands of Americans over the past two decades and recorded a decline of 10 points in average total cholesterol – to 196 mg/dL from 206 mg/dL.

While the so-called bad cholesterol, or LDL, decreased, there was a slight uptick in HDL cholesterol, higher levels of which are associated with a reduced risk of heart disease. Triglycerides, which are also linked to heart disease, initially rose 5 points to 123 mg/dL from 1988 to 2002, then dropped to 110 mg/dL by the end of 2010.

The study's authors said they were buoyed by their observations but could not provide a solid explanation for them. The popularity of cholesterol-lowering drugs like statins was only part of the explanation, they said. Their use more than quadrupled among adults during the study period, to 15.5 percent from 3.4 percent. As many as 35 percent of men and women over 50

took them, the study found. But the same improvements in cholesterol profiles were also seen in adults who were not taking them, said Margaret D. Carroll, the study's lead author and a statistician with the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"It was somewhat of a surprise to us to see these favorable trends in people who were not on lipid-lowering medications," she said.

The study was observational, which means it could not prove what caused the decline in cholesterol levels. Carroll and her colleagues said, however, that exercise, obesity and saturated fat intake were unlikely to have been significant factors. Average physical activity levels have not increased, more than a third of the adult population is obese, and the intake of saturated fat as a percentage of calories in the American diet is the same as it was more than a decade ago.

Instead they suggested widespread public health campaigns to rid trans fats from foods might have had an impact.

Once widely found in fried and packaged foods, trans fats, which can raise LDL and lower HDL cholesterol, have been slowly stripped from the food supply as cities have banned their use in restaurants and pressed companies to remove them from cookies, soups, crackers and other processed foods. One CDC study this year found that since 2000, levels of trans fats in Americans' bloodstreams had fallen nearly 60 percent. Two other trends in the past decade may have also been factors, the researchers said: declines in smoking and a drop in carbohydrate consumption. Dr. David J. Frid, a cardiologist at the Cleveland Clinic, said the findings were unexpected given the high rates of obesity and Type 2 diabetes. □

Study: Multivitamins may lower cancer risk in men

M. MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

America's favorite dietary supplements, multivitamins, modestly lowered the risk for cancer in healthy male doctors who took them for more than a decade, the first large study to test these pills has found.

The result is a surprise because many studies of individual vitamins have found they don't help prevent chronic diseases and some even seemed to raise the risk of cancer.

In the new study, multivitamins cut the chance of developing cancer by 8 percent. That is less effective than a good diet, exercise and not smoking, each of which can lower cancer risk by 20 percent to 30 percent, cancer experts say.

Multivitamins also may have different results in women, younger men or people less healthy than those in this study.

"It's a very mild effect and personally I'm not sure it's significant enough to recommend to anyone" although it is promising, said Dr. Ernest Hawk, vice president of cancer prevention at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and formerly of the National Cancer Institute.

"At least this doesn't suggest a harm" as some previous studies on single vitamins have, he said.

Hawk reviewed the study

for the American Association for Cancer Research, which is meeting in Anaheim, California, where the study was to be presented on Wednesday. It also was

Supplements.

Some fads, such as the antioxidant craze over vitamins A and E and beta-carotene, backfired when studies found more health



Featured is a monthly calendar vitamin pack used in a long-term study on multivitamins. America's favorite dietary supplements, multivitamins, modestly lowered the risk of developing cancer in healthy male doctors who took them daily for more than a decade, the first large study to test these pills has found. The study was published online in the Journal of the American Medical Association on Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012.

(AP Photo/Brigham and Women's Hospital)

published online in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

About one-third of U.S. adults and as many as half of those over 50 take multivitamins. They are marketed as a kind of insurance policy against bad eating. Yet no government agency recommends their routine use "regardless of the quality of a person's diet," says a fact sheet from the federal Office of Dietary

risk with those supplements, not less. Many of those were single vitamins in larger doses than the "100 percent of daily value" amounts that multivitamins typically contain.

Science on vitamins has been skimpy. Most studies have been observational — they look at groups of people who do and do not use vitamins, a method that can't give firm conclusions. □

WHO:

TB drops to 8.7 million new cases

AP Medical Writer
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The number of people who caught tuberculosis last year inched downward according to an estimate by the World Health Organization, but the agency warned that drug-resistant strains are still spreading.

In a new report issued Wednesday, the U.N. agency estimated there were about 8.7 million new cases of TB last year, down from

about 8.8 million in 2010. The number of deaths was unchanged at about 1.4 million — making it the second-leading killer among infectious diseases after AIDS. But no one knows for sure what the actual figures are since the WHO report said it was too expensive and complicated to measure the exact number of new TB cases every year. WHO also said drug-resistant tuberculosis was spreading but acknowl-

edged it didn't have enough data to know if those strains were getting more prevalent or not.

Drug-resistant TB is often the result of patients not being treated properly for regular TB; it is more expensive to treat and the drugs have worse side effects. WHO estimates that only 1 in 5 cases of drug-resistant TB are identified globally, meaning the others are spreading the disease without being treated. □



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Analysts, PC industry cool on Windows 8

PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — While Microsoft is touting next week's launch of Windows 8 as the savior of the computer industry, PC makers and analysts are increasingly skeptical that the new operating system will lure consumers away from tablets and smartphones. Even Intel Corp., which makes the processors at the heart of 80 percent of personal computers, doubts that Windows 8 will have a big impact on sales. CEO Paul Otellini said this week that he's "very excited" about the new operating system but expects the usual holiday bounce in PC sales to be half of what it usually is. Clearly, PC makers are being cautious about building big stocks of Windows 8 PCs. "We haven't had a chance to really judge how consumers will embrace this in the PC space or not," Otellini said on a conference call with reporters and analysts. Research firm IHS iSuppli expects the industry to ship 349 million PCs this year, down 1 percent from last year's all-time high. Although small, the decline would be the first since 2001. In the U.S., a mature market where consumers are gobbling up tablets, PC sales have already been declining for two years. Meanwhile, Apple has been doubling sales of iPad tablets every year since the first model was introduced in 2010. In the April to June period, Apple shipped 17 million iPads, while Hewlett-Packard Co., then the world's largest maker of PCs, shipped 13.6 million PCs, according to Gartner analysts. Smartphones, which were

a niche market before the 2007 launch of the iPhone, outsold PCs last year, even though PC sales were at a record high. The PC market is still big, Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer told the Seattle Times last month, "and Windows 8 will propel that volume." The software is a response to the popularity of tablets. It tosses out many Windows conventions in favor of a radical new look that's designed to be easy to use on a touch screen. With Windows 8, PC makers are releasing a slew of laptops that double as tablets, either with detachable screens or with screens that fold down over the keyboard. But Citigroup analyst Joe Yoo is even more pessimistic than Intel that Windows 8 will spur a turnaround in sales of desktop and laptop computers. It could turn out to be a "non-event" in terms of getting people to buy PCs, he said. Microsoft did not immediately respond to a request for comment. On Thursday, the company reports results for the quarter that ended in September, and executives will likely talk about prospects for the rest of the year. Brian White at Topeka Capital Markets said Taiwanese PC component suppliers aren't seeing any pickup in orders ahead of the Oct. 26 launch of Windows 8. "The sentiment around Windows 8 was overwhelmingly negative," he said after meetings with suppliers. "We believe the PC industry is headed for a muted December quarter and well below the ramp expected with new products." Analyst Mary Jo Foley at UBS is "leery" of Windows



In this Monday, June 18, 2012, file photo, Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer comments on the Windows 8 operating system.

Associated Press

8, noting that it has an entirely new look and feel. It could either be a big success, she said, or it could confuse customers and turn them off. She noted that Microsoft is set to support the launch with its \$1 billion in advertising, the most it has

ever spent on a campaign. That support will be critical for overcoming resistance to the new user interface and reinvigorate interest in PCs, she wrote. PC makers began the year with the hope that a new wave of lightweight laptops

called ultrabooks would provide a sales lift. But ultrabooks are still expensive, with most models around \$1,000, and they haven't been compelling enough to overcome the growing popularity of smartphones and tablets. □

Amazon.com looks to get Kindle to schools, workers

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon.com Inc. has launched a service to help schools and workplaces manage Kindles used by students and employees — sending out e-books or blocking certain types of activities, for example. Called Whispercast, the free service lets businesses and schools buy and distribute books and documents to Kindles over a wireless Internet connection. This means teachers can send out books to students in their class, and businesses can send out training materials, schedules and other documents, Amazon said. Schools can also block Kindles from accessing the Web and can prevent students from being able to make purchases on the device. Amazon said the service lets administrators register students and employees to their organizations' Kindle devices, assigning

them into groups for classes, grade levels or corporate departments. They can then distribute content to these groups or configure the settings on the devices from one location. Whispercast will let Amazon penetrate educational institutions and businesses more efficiently, said Forrester Research analyst Sarah Rotman Epps. Many schools and individual workers are already using Kindles and Kindle Fires for schoolwork and office work. With Whispercast, she added, employers can "have more control and confidence" over how the gadgets are used. Amazon is betting that Whispercast will be useful for businesses whose employers bring their own devices to work, a growing trend especially among younger, mobile workers. □

Stock market edges up on stronger housing report

MATTHEW CRAFT

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A surprisingly strong housing report helped push the stock market mostly higher Wednesday, while weak earnings reports from Intel and IBM weighed on the Dow Jones industrial average.

Even though the two tech giants disappointed, overall earnings results have come in much better than some investors had feared, said Dan Veru, chief investment officer at Palisade Capital Management in Fort Lee, New Jersey.

"Everyone is breathing a sigh of relief that things aren't all that bad," Veru said. "That's what you see happening now."

The Dow edged up 5.22 points to close at 13,557, barely managing its fourth straight day of gains. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 5.99 points to 1,460.91.

Better results from Mattel, Goldman Sachs, and Johnson & Johnson shot the stock market higher Tuesday. For the week, the Dow is up 1.7 percent and the S&P 500 is up 2.3 percent. Heading into this earnings season, FedEx, Caterpillar and other global heavyweights had warned investors that China's slowing economy and Europe's ongoing debt crisis would weigh on quarterly profits.

Analysts still expect that third-quarter earnings for companies in the S&P 500

will shrink for the first time since 2009. IBM reported sales late Tuesday that missed Wall Street's expectations. On a call with analysts, IBM's chief financial officer said the company faced "more challenging" market conditions in September, the final month of

Intel warned that sales of personal computers will likely remain weak during the holiday season this year. The chip-maker cut its revenue estimates for the year-end quarter when it reported results late Tuesday. Intel's stock fell 56 cents to \$21.79.

ing starts have climbed by 43 percent. "If there was any doubt that the housing market was undergoing a recovery, even a modest one in the face of the terrible 2008 decline, those doubts should be erased by now," Greenhaus said.

In other trading, the Nasdaq composite index inched up 2.95 points to 3,104.12. More than two stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange.

The housing report helped lift the yield on the 10-year Treasury note to 1.81 percent from 1.72 percent late Tuesday. Better economic news usually sends traders out of safe assets like Treasuries, and when bond prices fall their yields rise.

The 10-year Treasury yield, a standard benchmark for mortgages and other loans, started October at 1.63 percent. Among other companies making big moves Wednesday:

— Dean Foods led all stocks in the S&P 500 with a 13 percent jump. The dairy company offered more details about its planned spin-off of a subsidiary, WhiteWave, the producer of Silk Soy-milk. Dean Foods said it will keep at least 80 percent of WhiteWave after the company's initial public offering. The company's stock rose \$1.92 to \$16.96.

— The University of Phoenix's parent company, the Apollo Group, plunged 22 percent, the biggest drop in the S&P 500. □



Traders Ronald Madarasz, left, and Vincent Quinones work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. A surprisingly strong housing report helped push the stock market mostly higher Wednesday, while weak earnings reports from Intel and IBM weighed on the Dow Jones industrial average.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

the quarter, as cautious customers and a weakening euro undercut its results. IBM's stock sank \$10.37 to \$200.63.

Without IBM's drop, the Dow would have been 79 points higher. Stocks with higher prices carry more weight in the average of 30 large companies. Every move of \$1 in any Dow stock is equivalent to moving the Dow average 7.68 points.

The Commerce Department said Wednesday that builders broke ground on building new single-family houses and apartments at the fastest pace since July 2008. Housing starts surged to an annual rate of 872,000 in September, far above estimates by economists.

"You might think it's a misprint," said Dan Greenhaus, chief global strategist at BTIG, in a note to clients. But over the past year, hous-

IBM falls on signs of drop for demand

NEW YORK (AP) — IBM's stock fell more than 5 percent Wednesday, after the company reported disappointing third-quarter revenue and suggested that demand in key markets may be slowing.

Shares ended the trading session down \$10.69, or 5.1 percent, at \$200.31. The earnings report was released after the market closed on Tuesday.

The Armonk, New York, company blamed global economic deterioration and a drop in the value of the euro for the 5 percent drop in its revenue in the July-September period. It came to \$24.7 billion, \$700 million less than analysts expected.

Revenue in its region that includes Europe declined 9 percent, more than any other part of the world. The weaker euro contributed to the erosion. That's because sales made in Europe are converting into fewer U.S. dollars than a year ago.

IBM management also raised the specter of slowing demand for the company's technology consulting services and business-software products, as corporate customers become more cautious and debt-laden government agencies deal with budget cuts. □

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EBay 3Q posts high earnings

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — EBay's third-quarter net income grew 22 percent, helped by higher revenue at its PayPal payments service and the marketplaces business that includes eBay.com.

The results were roughly within expectations, with revenue a little light and earnings a tad higher than what Wall Street analysts had predicted. EBay Inc. also raised its full-year guidance slightly.

The online commerce company said Wednesday that it earned \$597 million, or 45 cents per share, in the July-September period. That's up from \$491 million, or 37 cents per share, a year earlier.

Revenue grew 15 percent to \$3.4 billion from \$2.97 billion.

Adjusted earnings were 55 cents per share in the latest quarter, slightly ahead of Wall Street's expectations.

Analysts surveyed by FactSet were expecting earnings of 54 cents per share on revenue of \$3.41 billion.

"We had a great third quarter across our company, with Marketplaces and PayPal accelerating customer growth," CEO John Donahoe said in a statement. "Mobile continues to be a game changer for us, and we continue to be a clear leader in mobile commerce and payments."

EBay is working to take advantage of the increasing number of people who use their smartphones to shop and pay for things. □

US proposes capital rules for derivatives traders

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. regulators proposed setting minimum capital levels that banks and other firms that trade derivatives must hold as a cushion against risk.

The Securities and Exchange Commission voted Wednesday to seek public comment on the proposed rules, which also would set collateral requirements and keeping customer funds separate from a firm's. The financial overhaul law passed in 2010 called for new oversight of derivatives, the complex investments blamed for hastening the financial crisis, and required the SEC to write the rules.

The value of derivatives hinges on an underlying investment or commodity — such as currency rates, oil futures or interest rates. The derivative is de-

signed to reduce the risk of loss from the underlying asset.

The SEC's proposal applies to derivatives based on securities such as stocks and bonds. It is similar to rules proposed previously by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for other kinds of derivatives.

SEC officials said the proposal, which is open to comment for 60 days and could be formally adopted after that, is the final set of rules for derivatives that the agency must put into effect under the 2010 law. The agency has been writing a number of related rules since 2010, and some of them have been formally adopted.

Taken together, "these rules are intended to make the financial system safer, and the derivatives markets fair-

er, more efficient and more transparent," SEC Chairman Mary Schapiro said before the vote.

Derivatives have been traded in an opaque \$600 trillion market around the globe. Giant insurer American International Group Inc. nearly collapsed from losses on its derivatives contracts in the fall of 2008 and was rescued by the federal government in the biggest bailout of the financial crisis, \$182 billion.

Derivatives trading is dominated by about 20 big banks worldwide, many of them Wall Street firms. Five big U.S. banks — JPMorgan Chase & Co., Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Bank of America Corp., Citigroup Inc. and Wells Fargo & Co. — account for an estimated 97 percent of the deriva□

American Express profit inches higher in 3Q

ALEX VEIGA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

American Express Co. said Wednesday that its net income rose 1 percent in the third quarter, aided by lower expenses and increased spending by the credit card issuer's customers.

Spending by the company's cardholders rose 8 percent in the U.S. during the July-to-September quarter versus a year earlier. It increased 6 percent globally.

The increased spending helped boost revenue 4 percent. The company also benefited from lower operating costs.

Even so, the rate of growth in spending by the New York company's cardholders actually slowed compared to a few months ago, reflecting a trend among major card issuers this year, CEO Kenneth Chenault said.



American Express says its net income rose 1 percent in the third quarter as its customers spent more money, boosting revenue for the credit card issuer. The New York-based company said Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012 that it posted net income of \$1.25 billion, or \$1.09 per share, for the three months ended Sept. 30.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

The company's provisions for loan losses jumped 92 percent to \$479 million from \$249 million a year earlier, when write-offs and delinquencies were declin-

ing at a faster rate and American Express released a far bigger portion of its reserves set aside to cover bad loans.

Still, American Express said

credit quality — an industry term for how well borrowers are keeping up with debt payments — remained at historically strong levels.

Cards with no set spending limit and other high-end perks have helped American Express draw customers that are about a third more affluent than other credit cardholders.

Those affluent shoppers have spent more freely in the years following the recession. They also have been less prone to let their balances go unpaid. The combination has helped drive American Express' earnings.

For its latest quarter, American Express reported net income of \$1.25 billion, or \$1.09 per share, for the three months ended Sept. 30. That compares with net income of \$1.24 billion, or \$1.03 per share, in the same period last year. □

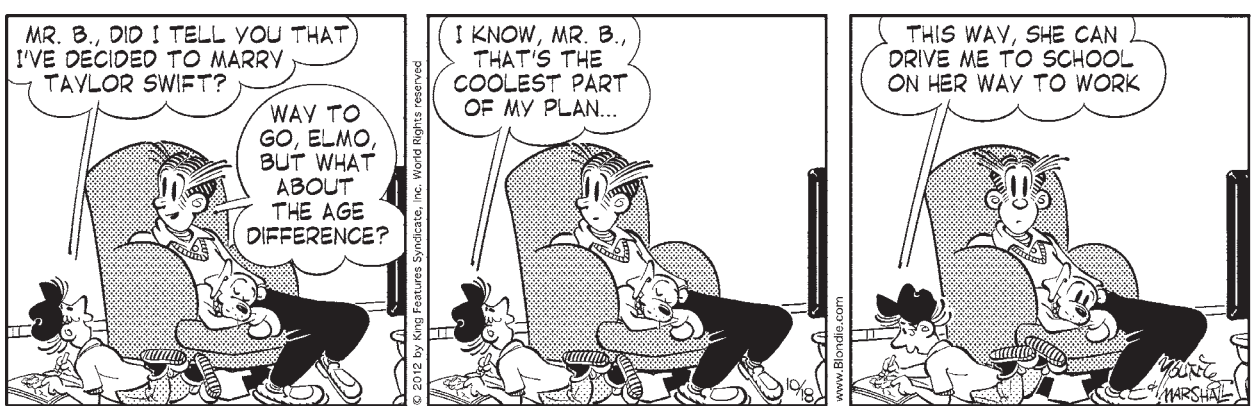
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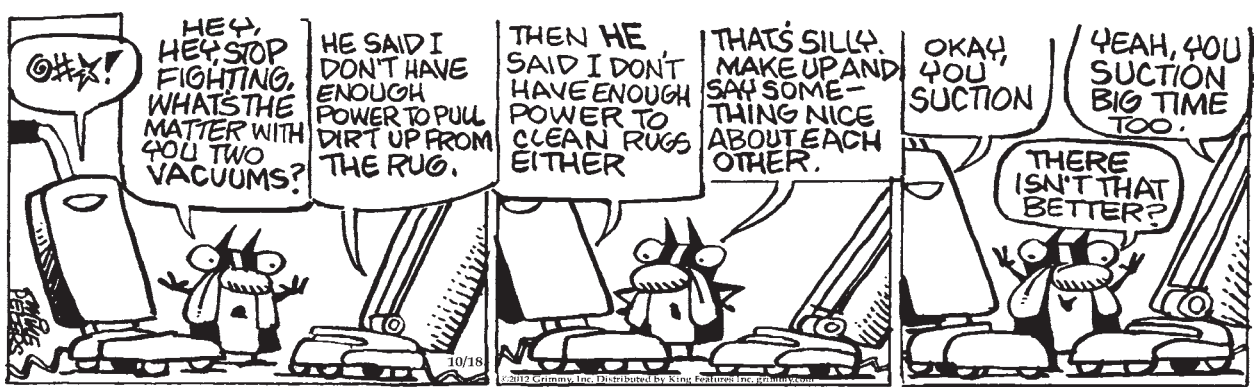
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		2	9		7	5		
	3	1		8		7	4	
2								5
	6						2	
3								1
	9	4		6		3	1	
		7	5		8	9		

Difficulty Level ★★★

10/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	9	4	5	7	8	2	1	3
1	3	5	4	6	2	8	9	7
7	2	8	1	3	9	5	6	4
8	4	6	9	2	1	3	7	5
2	5	7	3	8	6	1	4	9
3	1	9	7	5	4	6	2	8
4	8	1	6	9	5	7	3	2
5	6	3	2	4	7	9	8	1
9	7	2	8	1	3	4	5	6

ACROSS

- 1 Walk lamely; favor one leg
- 5 African nation
- 10 Cut up; dice
- 14 Length times width
- 15 Passenger
- 16 Actress Lange
- 17 Young horse
- 18 Not as youthful
- 19 Help in crime
- 20 Beg
- 22 "___ it!"; very mild oath
- 24 Actor ___ Carmichael
- 25 More modern
- 26 Very important
- 29 Whale group
- 30 Friendlier
- 34 In ___; mired by routine
- 35 ___ up; arrange
- 36 Long-time teacher's status
- 37 Gallop
- 38 Sandy shores
- 40 Talk on and on
- 41 Spain's peninsula
- 43 "Mary ___ a little lamb..."
- 44 Bouquet holder
- 45 ___ up; relaxed
- 46 Wager
- 47 Inn
- 48 Stinky
- 50 Actor Brynner
- 51 Narrow valleys
- 54 Kook
- 58 Abbr. following many poems
- 59 Upper room
- 61 Declare openly
- 62 Doing nothing
- 63 Turn a handle
- 64 Longest river
- 65 Recolored
- 66 Sweetheart
- 67 Likelihood

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21			22		23			
			24			25						
26	27	28			29			30		31	32	33
34					35			36				
37				38			39			40		
41		42				43				44		
45					46			47				
			48	49			50					
51	52	53					54			55	56	57
58					59	60				61		
62					63					64		
65					66					67		

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/18/12

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

PUB				ACHES			DUCK
ISLE				SHONE			ALOE
NEAR				PANDA			MAIN
				SHAMELESS			ANNS
				SANK			HAS
INLETS				SHOCKERS			
MOORE				SHORT			NIP
PODS				GORGE			ETNA
ESE				BARES			CREST
LESSE				NED			SHORES
				TAG			READ
ALDA				STRANDING			
GARB				TRAPS			NOON
OV				EERIE			GURU
GAME				REEDS			NET

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- 39 Head topper
- 42 Cultured; civilized
- 44 Lava spewer
- 46 Nightclub
- 47 Shack
- 49 Instruct
- 50 Unpleasant
- 51 Sudden attack
- 52 Mayberry's sheriff
- 53 Small rodent
- 54 Three threes
- 55 Enthusiastic
- 56 Got a buyer for
- 57 Lamb bearers
- 60 Light brown

Book clubs are turning up in spas

RACHEL FELDER

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NEW YORK – The phrase “literary salon” has a whole new meaning.

At what seems to be a growing number of spas, clients are comparing their thoughts about something other than the newest anti-aging facial or which technician gives the best deep-tissue massage. They’re discussing a suspenseful page-turner or recently released self-help best seller. Book clubs have become a popular way for day and destination spas to bring in potential clients and to give existing ones an excuse to keep coming back. At the Carlyle Hotel, a monthly literary group began meeting this week at the Yves Durif Salon inside its Sense spa and listen to Erica Jong discuss “Sugar in My Bowl,” a sex anthology she edited. At the Lake Austin Spa Resort in Austin, Texas, a series called For the Love of Books is held monthly, and Canyon Ranch established a series of author appearances last year at its flagship Tucson, Ariz., location. The “Paging” Happiness Book Club, introduced last month by Bliss, promotes a new release quarterly: for each title, the book and a companion package of products are sold on the spa’s website, with a themed treatment, like a manicure-pedicure accompanied by a guided meditation recorded by the author Gabrielle Bernstein around her book “May Cause Miracles,” available at most of its locations starting early next year.

Such promotions, said Heather Mikesell, executive editor of the trade magazine American Spa, make spa-going more social. “It’s more than hiding in a treatment room,” she said. “It’s something you can share with your friends, so it brings more to the table.” And because they both attract demonstrably more women than men, spas and book clubs are a logical match.

They are also a low-over-

head investment. At day spas that offer book conversations and author appearances, it’s usually free to attend. At residential spas like Rancho La Puerta

gatherings, publishing houses are building spa appearances into their authors’ promotional tours. “It used to be that there were four different components:

“Katie,” at chain and independent booksellers, and at several locations of the store Anthropologie. “Part of it is, ‘Kiss more’, so here’s lip balm, which is funny, but it’s really true,” Rubin said. Participation in the Bliss events probably won’t spike sales the way a mention in Oprah Winfrey’s book club might have, but Ambrosi is still happy with the alliance. “You’re capturing the person that already wants to take care of themselves,” she said, “and now wants to take care of themselves in a more emotional way.”

Although authors are typically not paid for spa appearances (they fall under the umbrella of promotion), it doesn’t usually take a lot of arm-twisting to get writers to a spa. “It’s a nice treat for the authors,” said Robbie Hudson, director of programming at the Lake Austin Spa Resort. “The book tours can be pretty grueling. Sometimes they like to end their tour here and be pampered. They can do a talk and they’re a spa guest.”

Author appearances are not necessary for a book club to thrive. Ethos Fitness Spa for Women in Midland Park, N.J., has not included them in the literary discussions it offers periodically for members. The Ole Henriksen Face/Body Spa in Los Angeles plans to introduce a traditional book club for clients early next year, following the success of similar staff-only gatherings. But an author’s presence can help attract guests ... and sell books. □



Components of a pedicure treatment inspired by Gretchen Rubin’s book “Happier at Home” as part of the “Paging” Happiness Book Club, at Bliss in New York, Oct. 18, 2012. Book clubs have become a popular way for day and destination spas to bring in potential clients and to give existing ones an excuse to keep coming back.

(Erin Baiano/The New York Times)

near San Diego in Tecate, Mexico, literary programming is included in the price of a stay. (Miraval Arizona Resort and Spa in Tucson charges a fee to attend its book series, which was introduced last year; it revolves around intimate talks by authors affiliated with the spa, like Dr. Andrew Weil.)

Most spas sell the books that are discussed, and some offer either a companion treatment or, as the Spa at the Omni Mount Washington Resort in Bretton Woods, N.H., does, occasional discounts on services to book-club attendees.

With the rise of these book

radio, television, magazines and newspapers,” said Leigh Ann Ambrosi, vice president for brand publishing at Crown Archetype. “Now when you look at the bookings, it’s so drastically different, and kind of anything goes. Everybody’s trying to do new things and establishing new partnerships and cross-promotional opportunities.”

“Happier at Home” by Gretchen Rubin, one of the titles Ambrosi is working on, is included in the Bliss book club. To promote it, Rubin will appear at the spa’s Lexington Avenue location in December and answer questions on its website after stops on “Today” and

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U.S. town rehiring fired 'Gangnam Style' lifeguards

EL MONTE, California (AP) — Fourteen lifeguards fired last month after appearing in uniform at the city pool in a parody of "Gangnam Style," the Korean pop music video that has been viewed hundreds of millions of times online, are getting their jobs back.

The City Council in the Southern California town of El Monte voted to rehire them pending a management review at the aquatic center, the San Gabriel Valley Tribune reported.

The lifeguards' parody of the video by Korean pop star PSY showed them in city-issued swimsuits dancing underwater and on diving boards at the pool. The "Gangnam Style" video has spawned countless such spoofs. City officials had said the workers violated employee conduct standards and prohibitions on use of city property. The lifeguards countered, saying they were off the clock when they made the video. The controversy quickly gained attention, as the lifeguards received support from many local residents — and even from PSY.

Hundreds of people attended a City Council meeting this month to defend them. At that meeting, it was announced that a contractor had been hired to review the aquatic center's management, policies and procedures, including the steps leading to their firing.

Mayor Andre Quintero recommended they be rehired, saying that if the lifeguards were employed, they would be more likely to cooperate with the independent review.

Opponents said they wanted to see the results of the investigation completed before deciding whether the lifeguards should get their jobs back.

The council voted 3-2 on Tuesday to allow them to return. □

American Made: New ideas fuel fashion

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL

AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Martha Stewart and her American Made project turned Grand Central Terminal's Vanderbilt Hall into a hub of crafts, croissants and conversation on Wednesday with experts in the areas of gardening, decorating, cooking and fashion. In a session called "The Makers of American Fashion," Stewart did a one-on-one interview with J. Crew CEO Millard Drexler, and then led a panel discussion with Calvin Klein, Tory Burch and Ralph Rucci. As the grande dame of the home, Stewart said what she brought to the fashion table is an ability to sew, an affinity for design and a desire to promote American-grown talent.



This image released by the American Made Awards shows Martha Stewart, left, during an interview with J. Crew CEO Millard Drexler at Grand Central Terminal's Vanderbilt Hall as part of Stewart's American Made project in New York on Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012. Associated Press

The talent in question seemed to agree that the success of the industry lies largely with new ideas and the customers who will embrace them.

Right now, everything looks too similar, said Drexler: "It's a broken record around the world." It's the person willing to be a "contrarian" that will leave the biggest impact, he said.

"In business, you must stay creative," Klein added. "If you give people what they will want, your business will grow."

Burch, who in eight years has grown from a kitchen-table idea into a global brand, said she takes inspiration anywhere she can get it: art, music or a book, for example. But she also has to keep regional trends and taste in mind. There's a big divide between Brazilian bathing suits with very little fabric and the covered-up customs in the Middle East, she said.

The goal, according to Burch, is balance.

Rucci made the case that being a well-rounded person makes him a better designer, and that fashion doesn't operate in a total vacuum. For him, painting is "my trap door."

On the practical side, though, Drexler said price is a factor in long-term success. "As a kid, I realized you can never afford everything you want. ... Calvin (Klein) and Ralph (Lauren) were it, but they were more expensive than I thought it should be. No offense. But I didn't think good taste should cost more." □



In this June 10, 2012 file photo, Bruce Norris poses with his Best Play award for "Clybourne Park" in the press room at the 66th annual Tony Awards, in New York. Associated Press

'Clybourne Park' writer upset about blackface

MARK KENNEDY

AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of "Clybourne Park" says he withdrew permission for a Berlin theater company to produce the play after learning that one of the actors would perform the roles in blackface. Bruce Norris, in a letter dated Tuesday to the Dramatists Guild, said that managers at the Deutsches Theater said the female African-American character in the play was being per-

formed by a white actress and producers would "experiment with makeup." Norris called the use of blackface an "asinine tradition" and urged fellow playwrights to boycott productions of their work by German theaters who employ such tactics. "Clybourne Park," a seven person play with two black characters, is about racial and economic changes occurring in a neighborhood over a 50-year period. It won the best play Tony Award. □

Megan Fox announces birth of baby boy on Facebook



This Sept. 25, 2010 file photo shows American actress Megan Fox posing with her husband Brian Austin Green after watching the presentation of the Emporio Armani Spring-Summer 2011 fashion collection, during the fashion week in Milan, Italy. Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Megan Fox has taken to social media to announce the birth of her baby boy. The "Transformers" actress wrote on her Facebook profile on Wednesday that she and husband Brian Austin Green welcomed a son named Noah Shannon Green on September 27. She describes him as "healthy, happy and perfect." She goes on to

say she and Green are "humbled" to be "the parents of this beautiful soul." Fox and Green were married in 2010. This is their first child together. They began dating in 2004 when Green appeared on the TV show "Hope & Faith," on which Fox had a supporting role. Green has a son named Kassius from a previous relationship with actress Vanessa Marcil. □



This Oct. 14, 2011 file photo shows actress Debbie Reynolds posing for a portrait in New York. Reynolds' publicist said Wednesday Oct. 10, 2012 that the actress-singer had to be hospitalized for an adverse reaction to a medication and was canceling several upcoming performances. Associated Press

Debbie Reynolds goes home

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A publicist says Debbie Reynolds is home recuperating after a brief hospitalization. The "Singin' in the Rain" star needed medical attention last week in Los Angeles after suffering a bad reaction to some medication. Publicist Kevin Sasaki said Wednesday that Reynolds has been home for a couple of days and is feeling better but still canceling her appearances for the rest of the year.

Yo-Yo Ma to continue work at Chicago Symphony

CARYN ROUSSEAU
Associated Press
CHICAGO (AP) — Famed cellist Yo-Yo Ma will stay on as a creative consultant at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Orchestra officials said Wednesday that Ma is extending his contract through June 2015. Ma accepted a three-year appointment to the newly created position at the symphony in January 2010. He has spent much of his time in Chicago working with the symphony's educational programs. The Citizen Musician initiative has had Ma perform in Chicago public schools and speak with students. □

Can 'Cloud Atlas' survive Hollywood reincarnation?



This film image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Tom Hanks as Zachry and Halle Berry as Meronym in a scene from "Cloud Atlas," an epic spanning centuries and genres. Associated Press

DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Susan Sarandon reported for work on "Cloud Atlas" midway through the shoot, in time to see a collection of far-flung film scenes that the cast and crew were viewing. There were bits of a 19th century sea voyage, a 1930s period drama, a 1970s thriller, a contemporary comic adventure, a 22nd century tale of rebellion and a 24th century post-apocalyptic saga. "I just thought, my God, this looks like the trailer for every film a studio is doing for the entire season," Sarandon recalled.

Yet it was just one film: "Cloud Atlas," an epic of shifting genres and intersecting souls that features Tom Hanks, Halle Berry, Jim Broadbent, Hugh Grant, Hugo Weaving, Ben Whishaw, Jim Sturgess, James D'Arcy, Doona Bae, Keith David, Sarandon and others in multiple roles spanning centuries.

That diverse cast is a great selling point for distributor Warner Bros., which opens "Cloud Atlas" in U.S. theaters Oct. 26. So, too, is the filmmaking team: American siblings Lana and Andy Wachowski, creators of "The Matrix" films, who wrote the screenplay and directed

"Cloud Atlas" with German filmmaker Tom Tykwer ("Run Lola Run").

The fact that the film is adapted from a best-selling novel also should help its audience appeal. Yet considering that "Cloud Atlas" author David Mitchell himself once felt the novel was unfilmable, fans of the book may have serious doubts about handing over their cash and spending nearly three hours in a theater to digest Hollywood's version. It's such a tough sell that even the notoriously media-shy Wachowskis, who had a no-press clause on earlier films, are out there eagerly hawking "Cloud Atlas."

"It's dear to us, and that's definitely part of it. Our partnership with Tom, our marriage with Tom, that's definitely a part of it. Tom engages with the press and has shown us, taught us some tricks that have made it a little easier for us to get back involved," said Andy Wachowski in an interview alongside his sister, who is transgender and changed her name from Larry to Lana, and their longtime pal Tykwer.

With mixed but generally appreciative early reviews — some critics reveling in its audacity and even detractors admiring its ambition — "Cloud Atlas" already is an

artistic success simply by existing, given its unlikely path to the screen.

The Wachowskis discovered the book from Natalie Portman, who was reading "Cloud Atlas" on the set of their 2006 thriller "V for Vendetta." The siblings recommended the novel to Tykwer, and the three spent years overcoming creative and commercial obstacles to adapt it for film.

The \$100 million budget was pieced together from a variety of international financiers and distributors; Warner Bros. acquired U.S. rights but declined to finance the film, despite the studio's success with the Wachowskis' "Matrix" trilogy.

Then there were the challenges of condensing dozens of key characters in six stories that span the globe and sprawl across 500 years as souls are reincarnated and progress through the ages. "The book seemed almost like a revolutionary act in and of itself," Lana Wachowski said.

"David has said since that they did have trouble with, do you put it in science fiction, do you put it in drama? Where do you put it on the shelf in the bookstore?" The way they cracked the code was, in a word author Mitchell tosses about repeatedly, ingenious. □



This image released by the Las Vegas Police Department shows rapper Flavor Flav, also known as William Jonathan Drayton, Jr., in a police booking photo taken Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012. Associated Press

Flavor Flav arrested in Las Vegas

KEN RITTER

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Entertainer Flavor Flav threw his fiancée to the floor twice and grabbed two knives as he chased and threatened to kill her 17-year-old son during an argument Wednesday at their home in Las Vegas, a police report states.

The former rapper, hip-hop and reality TV star, whose legal name is William Jonathan Drayton Jr., cut his finger with one of the knives before police arrived and arrested him about 3:30 a.m., according to the report.

Drayton, 53, was jailed on \$23,000 bail pending an initial court appearance Thursday on a felony charge of assault with a deadly weapon and a misdemeanor count of battery-domestic violence. He could face up to six years in prison on the assault charge if convicted.

His girlfriend of eight years, Elizabeth Trujillo, 39, told police her earring was ripped out during the fracas, which she said stemmed from an argument over infidelity.

Police did not report that she sought medical treatment. The teen wasn't injured.

Attempts to reach Trujillo by telephone were not immediately successful. □

Rules For Craftsmen



DAVID BROOKS

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Voters have been astonishingly clear. In 2000, they elected George W. Bush after he promised to change the tone in Washington. In 2008, they elected Barack Obama after he promised to move the country beyond stale partisan debates. In this year's first presidential debate, surveys show that viewers loved Mitt Romney's talk of professionalism and bipartisanship.

In other words, primary campaigns are won by the candidate who can most convincingly champion the party's agenda, but general election campaigns are won by the candidate who can most plausibly fix the political system. So let's think carefully about what sort of leader it would take to break through the partisan dysfunction and make Washington work.

First, it doesn't take moderation. It's important to distinguish between moderation and pragmatism. Ted Kennedy was nobody's definition of a moderate, yet he had the ability to craft large and effective compromises on issues ranging from immigration to education and health care.

Second, the governing craftsman has to have a dual consciousness. He has to be able to distinguish between a campaign consciousness and a governing consciousness. The campaign consciousness involves simplifying your own positions, exaggerating your opponent's weaknesses and magnifying the differences between your relative positions. In governing mode, you have to do the reverse of all these things. Third, it does require the ability to count. The governing craftsman has to be able to know how many votes each side possesses. He has to avoid the narcissistic question: What do I want? He has to ask instead: Given this correlation of forces, what is the landscape offering me?

Fourth, the craftsman has to avoid the trap of thinking that right makes right. He has to avoid saying to himself: My position is objectively the correct one. Therefore, all I have to do is get the facts out there, win the debate and then I'll get everything I want. The craftsman has to accept the hard reality that the other side also believes these things. It is extremely unlikely that one side will convince the other, or the country. The craftsman can

hope for some final ideological victory, but he can't realistically expect one.

Fifth, the craftsman has to distinguish between existential issues and business issues. Winston Churchill would have made a terrible mistake if he had compromised with the appeasers. On the other hand, Dan Rostenkowski and Robert Packwood were absolutely right to compromise to get the tax reform of 1986 passed.

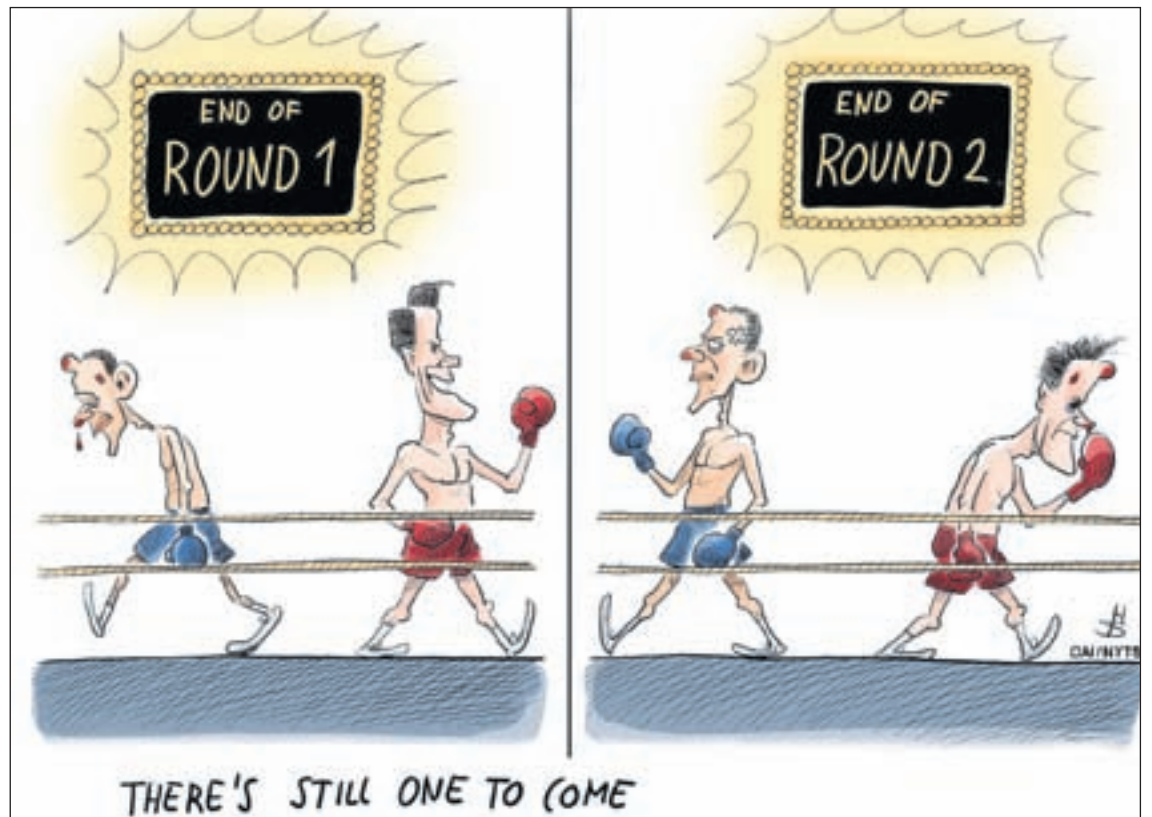
The craftsman has to understand that in the middle of the fight almost every issue will feel like an existential issue, though, in reality, 98 percent of legislative conflicts are business issues.

Sixth, the craftsman has to be able to read a calendar. It is psychologically painful to move away from your heartfelt position. It is easier to say to yourself: I can't get what I want now, but, if I just wait, I'll win the next election and get everything after that. Participants in the Middle East peace process do this: They postpone their dreams while maximizing their demands.

The craftsman has to understand that these distant fantasies almost never come true. It is usually better to make a small step next month than do nothing in hopes of a total victory next generation. Seventh, the craftsman has to be socially promiscuous. Dealmaking is about friendship. The craftsman has to work on relationships all day every day. It's not enough to talk to your adversaries in negotiations. You have to talk to them when nothing is happening. You have to talk to them when they are up, when they are down. You have to celebrate their anniversaries and birthdays. Eighth, the craftsman has to betray his side. It is relatively easy to cut a deal with the leader of the other party. It is really hard to sell that deal to the rigid people in your own party. Therefore, the craftsman has to enter into a conspiracy with the other party's leader in order to manipulate the party bases. The leaders have to invent stories so that each base thinks it has won.

Ninth, the craftsman has to understand that stylistic pragmatism has to be accompanied by substance pragmatism. Barack Obama really wanted to move beyond stale battle lines. But he offered a conventional Democratic agenda. If you want to break the partisan stagnation, you have to come up with an unexpected policy agenda that will scramble the categories. You have to mix proposals from columns A and B.

Finally, a craftsman has to be tough inside and soft outside. It hurts to cede ground. The craftsman has to be gritty enough to endure the pain that always accompanies compromise, yet sensitive enough to recognize and sympathize with the other party's pain. Voters are right to demand craftsmanship, given the brutal trade-offs that loom ahead. But, boy, it's hard. □



How To Score The Presidential Debate



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

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I had to write this column before the presidential debate was finished, so I thought the most useful thing I could do is to offer the scoring system I'll be using to determine who did best. You can fill in your own scores. My system is not based on zingers or extra points for energizing the base, but rather on what I believe many Americans really want from the next president. You see, I believe this time is different — that many Americans understand something is very wrong, that we could go the way of Greece or Japan if we don't shape up, and that they will embrace a candidate who trusts them with the truth, that is, an honest diagnosis of where we are and how we get out of this mess. Up to now, neither candidate has been willing to do that.

So, first, I'll be looking for that honest diagnosis. We are where we are today, in part, because the merger of globalization and information technology has transformed how goods and services are bought and sold, made and designed. This merger makes old jobs obsolete faster and spins off new jobs faster, but all the good new jobs require higher skills. As a country, notes Lawrence Katz, the Harvard University labor economist, we have historically ensured that our workforce kept up with new technology by steadily expanding public education — first universal primary education and then universal

secondary education. But since the 1980s, says Katz, when we needed to move to some form of universal postsecondary education to keep pace with globalization and IT, we didn't. Instead, he points out, "our high school graduation rates stopped improving and our growth in college graduates slowed substantially — far below what we need for rapid growth and shared prosperity." Today, our workers ages 50 and over are the most educated in the world; our younger workers are in the middle of the global pack for industrialized countries; and our national dropout rate remains stubbornly high, around 25 percent.

So what did we do? We created employment for our unskilled workers by a massive injection of subprime credit that created a large number of home construction and retailing jobs. Meanwhile, Wall Street also ballooned, in part by shifting from an industry that funded "creative destruction" of new firms to an industry, as the economist Jagdish Bhagwati put it, that funded "destructive creation" of unproductive financial instruments.

"For too many years, our job creation engines were excessively reoriented from competitive global markets to inwardly oriented sectors that were taken to unsustainable levels, (e.g., construction, finance, housing and retail)," wrote Mohamed A. El-Erian, the chief executive of Pimco, in The Atlantic.com. "The result was an unbalanced and vulnerable labor force. Our generation also overdosed on debt and credit entitlement. We got seduced by financial engineering. ... Too little genuine growth, too much debt, and a risk culture gone crazy culminated in the very messy global financial crisis of 2008 and its aftermath — a costly shock to society whose impact will be with us for quite a few years still. ... For years, Western societies have un-

der- and mal-invested in education. As we slipped down global rankings, we convinced ourselves that our traditional global edge in entrepreneurship and innovation" could compensate for our declines in educational attainment. They can't.

All of this came to a head during the terrible 2000s. The housing/credit markets exploded, creating a systemic banking crisis and a painful recession, which coincided with our sharpening education deficit, which coincided with two wars and a big tax cut that dramatically worsened our national deficit. The result is a deep hole.

That hole requires us to now cut spending, raise and reform taxes; stimulate the economy by investing in infrastructure, research and teachers; spur more startups; and offer more people postsecondary vocational or college education. So, first, listen for anything like that diagnosis from the candidates.

And, second, listen for a plan that rises to the true scale of that challenge, one that proposes job-creating infrastructure investments tied with a program to stimulate more startups (which have slowed) tied with a credible deficit-reduction plan — that would be phased in as the economy recovers — tied with a plan to get more Americans postsecondary education. Yes, I know, President Barack Obama has many such initiatives, but he has not made them the centerpiece of his campaign, or highlighted them in his commercials, or tied them together into a compelling package that gets people out of their chairs, saying: "Yes, he's got the answer!" Instead of campaigning on how good is his plan, he has campaigned on how bad is Romney's.

Third, the country wants a plan that is fair. The wealthy have to pay more, but everyone should contribute something. □

At Home In Apulia, Wherever You Are

FLORENCE FABRICANT
© 2012 New York Times

Earlier this year, when asked what Italian cuisine he'd like to see better represented in New York, Mario Batali said, without hesitation, "the food of Apulia."

The rustic cooking of the region in the heel of Italy takes a distant back seat to the food of noble Tuscany and lusty Naples, and is represented on few menus in New York. Nicola Marzovilla, who is from Polignano a Mare, a coastal town in Apulia, and owns I Trulli in Manhattan, attributes that to the region's cuisine being "the ultimate home cooking," he said. "It's not easy to do the food in restaurants."

At the same time, a few items from Apulia, or Puglia in Italian, are showing up, their pedigree unannounced, just about everywhere you turn. Burrata, an irresistibly lush form of mozzarella, has become wildly popular lately and may be the region's best ambassador to the United States. Though Naples and some other parts of the Campania region are the source of virtually all the mozzarella imported into the U.S., Apulia is the home of that mozzarella sphere that's distinguished by its filling: creamy shreds of the cheese.

It is said to have been created in the early 20th century, by cheesemakers in Andria, a town north of Bari, who hit on a way to use up the shreds of cheese, called stracciatella, left over from making mozzarella. (And there you have a key to what's on the table in Apulia: waste nothing. They even pickle and eat tiny hyacinth bulbs.)

At DiPalo Dairy in Little Italy, Lou DiPalo imports burrata from Apulia once a week. But he has also been making his own every day for the past three years.

"The burrata I get from Italy is not fresh enough," he said. "In three days, it's over."

Several other American artisanal companies have been making excellent burrata, including Maplebrook Farm in Bennington, Vt., where the cheesemaker, Domenico Marchitelli, comes from Apulia. Though restaurants in Apulia sometimes add embellishments like prosciutto, smoked salmon or pesto, DiPalo said that very fresh burrata does not even need olive oil.

"It's best shared with friends, plain, on some Pugliese bread, that's all," he said. "But it has become very trendy stuff."

Then there is the ubiquitous orecchiette, the small, dome-shaped "little ear" pasta that is popular in the United States, where it is often tossed with sausage and broccoli rabe. In Apulia, it comes dressed with bitter greens like cima di rape, a kind of chicory, or with turnip tops, similar to the broccoli rabe used here, yet more forceful. But with sausage? Probably never. You are more likely to be served orecchiette with fresh shrimp, clams or anchovies, ripe cherry tomatoes, or even horse meat.

Orecchiette are formed by kneading the dough, letting it rest, then breaking off portions to roll by hand into long skinny ropes. These are cut into pieces, formed into rounds and given the classic cup shape between the index finger and thumb, then flipped inside-out to expose the slightly more textured inner surface that will "grab" the sauce. Cooks often let them dry for a day or two before boiling them in salty water.

The size of the orecchiette varies depending on where you are. "Near Bari, they're very tiny, like contact lenses," said Silvestro Silvestori, who owns the Awaiting Table Cookery School in Lecce, in



An undated handout photo of Rosa D'Angella making orecchiette, the "little ear" pasta, at the Tormaresca winery in Minervino Murge, Italy. The rustic cooking of the Apulia region in southern Italy takes a distant back seat to the food of noble Tuscany and lusty Naples, and is represented on few menus in New York.

(Richard Fabricant via The New York Times)

winery in Minervino Murge, not far from Bari, makes her orecchiette with only semolina. She said the pasta was a typical Sunday lunch at home, served with cima di rape or horse meat ragu. Tormaresca, owned by the Antinori wine family, is the largest privately owned wine estate in Apulia, and is among the wineries that are giving Americans a taste for negroamaro

burned. In Altamura, near Bari, which is famous for its hearth-baked bread, the workers gathered any flour left in the oven and used it for pasta. Grano arso, which is used in some restaurants, gives the pasta a khaki color and a nutty flavor. In New York, Marzovilla's chefs at I Trulli toast their own, as does the chef at Vuciria in Hell's Kitchen. You can now buy grano arso in Apulia; in fact, it's more expensive than regular flour. "People are no longer poor," Silvestori said, "but they still cling to traditions." "Everyone loves broccoli rabe and sausage," he said, "so it was just a matter of combining them in the proper form."

So find some big, meaty Bella di Cerignola olives from Apulia, more typical and delicious when cured in oil, not brine. Serve a fresh burrata, followed with orecchiette, then some simply grilled or roasted sea bass, and open a bottle of negroamaro. It's all you need to bring Apulia home.

ORECCHIETTE WITH SWEET SAUSAGE AND BROCCOLI RABE PESTO

Adapted from Perla, New York Times: 45 minutes

Salt
1/2 pound broccoli rabe, stems trimmed off and discarded or saved for another use
3 cloves roasted garlic, peeled
10 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
3/4 cup freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano
1 cup finely chopped fennel bulb
1 cup finely chopped onion
1 pound sweet Italian sausage, casing removed

2 cups chicken stock
500 grams (about 1 1/4 pounds) dried orecchiette, or fresh (made with 4 cups flour)
1. Bring 3 quarts of water to a boil in a pot and add 1 tablespoon salt. Add broccoli rabe and cook about 5 minutes, until tender. Drain and place in a large bowl of ice water. Drain and squeeze dry. Turn on a food processor and drop garlic in through the feed tube. Stop machine, scrape down sides and add broccoli rabe. Pulse until finely chopped. Stop machine. Add 6 tablespoons oil. Pulse until pesto comes together but is not creamy or thoroughly emulsified. Transfer to a bowl and fold in 1/4 cup cheese.
2. Heat remaining 4 tablespoons oil in a large saute pan on low. Add fennel and onion, and cook until soft but not brown. Add sausage and cook, mashing it to a fine crumble, until it is no longer pink. Add chicken stock and cook until the stock has mostly evaporated and just glazes the sausage. Transfer sausage mixture to a food processor and pulse until finely ground. Return sausage to the pan. Fold in broccoli rabe pesto. Set aside.
3. Bring large pot of salted water to a boil. Add orecchiette and cook until al dente, about seven minutes. Reheat sausage mixture and add about 1/2 cup of the pasta water. Drain pasta and add to pan with the sausage mixture. Toss ingredients together until pasta is evenly coated. Fold in remaining 1/2 cup cheese, check seasoning and serve.
Yield: 6 servings



Orecchiette with broccoli rabe and sausage from the restaurant Perla, in New York, Oct. 16, 2012. The rustic cooking of the Apulia region in southern Italy takes a distant back seat to the food of noble Tuscany and lusty Naples, and is represented on few menus in New York.

(Suzanne DeChillo/The New York Times)

the Salento, the lower part of the region. "Sometimes they're as big as bottle caps farther south."

And different cooks prefer different flour blends. Silvestori uses a mixture of two-thirds hard wheat semolina, one-third barley flour for his orecchiette, which is one of Italy's few fresh pastas made without eggs.

Rosa D'Angella, who works in the kitchen at the Tormaresca

and primitivo, the red wines of the region that are starting to challenge Chianti Classico. These sturdy wines are particularly suited to Apulia's typically rustic food – a dish of orecchiette for certain. There is even a tradition for making the pasta with grano arso, or burned wheat. Supposedly, the poorest of the poor there would glean the wheat that was left after the harvest when the fields were